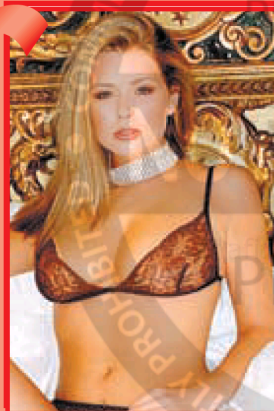


RY MOOD WITH A CUT-OUT NOTE FROM HIS FAVE STAR GIRL



**Michelle
says have
a sizzling
Yuletide**

To:
From:



**Nicola
wishes
you a
Happy
New Year**

To:
From:



**Holly
hopes Santa
brings the
perfect
prezzie**

To:
From:

Tag team

U'VE got the wrapping
er, you've got the prezzies
it, sod's law, you've forgotten the gift
s. Luckily your Daily Star has come to
rescue with the cheekiest Xmas treat

BY NADINE LINGE

ever. Move over Santa, even a
pair of socks will be a treat
if it's got one of our gorgeous girlie
tags taped to the top! Simply cut 'em
out and stick on to your presents.



**Here's to a
cracking
Christmas
stocking,
love Lucy**

To:
From:



**Here's
to an
X-rated
Xmas, love
Ruth**

To:
From:



**Have a
fun-filled
festive
season
from Annie**

To:
From:

Just Jane



JANE O'GORMAN SOLVES YOUR PROBLEMS TODAY AND EVERY DAY

TWO weeks ago I received this letter from a reader. She wanted to know what she should do:

I CAN never say no to anyone. At work my boss gets me doing all the horrible jobs because he knows that I won't object. At home my elderly parents have me running around all over the place for them.

Even my ex-husband has the ability to get me "at it", by making demands on my time and even borrowing money.

When I go out with my girlfriends, I often end up having one-night stands with strange blokes, because I don't know how to turn them down when they ask for sex.

Here are some of your answers:

RIGHT TO REPLY



MY ex-husband told me that I was ugly and stupid. As a result I had no self-esteem and let others use me.

Things came to a head when I found myself drunk and in bed with two men who were taking it in turns to have sex with me. I'd consented, but it was really awful. The next day I signed up for

assertiveness classes and turned my life around.

NAME WITHHELD.

YOUR reader needs to realise that life is not a rehearsal - this is it! If she doesn't start stamping her foot and living her life the way she wants to, then she'll be a victim forever.

I've found that other people only take advantage if we let them.

ALEX GOODMAN, Bradford.

THIS lady has allowed too many people to impose on her. They know that she is a soft touch. This will only change when she starts standing up for herself. She should try rehearsing some answers in advance so that when her boss asks her to do something

awful, she can be ready with a reasonable excuse or answer.

Mr S YARDE, Kent.

Now for this week's problem. Send your advice to the address at the foot of the page. A selection will be printed in two weeks.

I KNOW that my best friend's son is responsible for most of the graffiti around here. His "tag" has defaced everything from the local church to the bus stops.

My son tells me he smokes weed and steals from unlocked cars.

To hear his mother (my friend) talk, you'd think that she'd given birth to the Angel Gabriel himself. But the fact is that this little thug is ruining our neighbourhood. Should I say something?

I yearn to win him back

I RECENTLY ended an 18-month affair and realise I've made a big mistake.

He ultimately chose his partner over me, so I decided to move away for good.

But I still love him and I know that he still loves me. I've tried to put him out of my life by physically moving away, but my feelings for him are even stronger.

I know that I'll never love another man as much as I love him. When I think back to all the wonderful times we had together I feel like weeping.

We had so many intimate encounters at his work, my house and even in his van.

We'd spend all day together and then reluctantly part at night.

But it was bearable because I knew that I'd be seeing him again in only a few hours.

Being this far away from him now is killing me.

I've told him that I'm only a text or phone call away, so what do I do?

JANE SAYS: Sadly it takes two to tango. If your ex-lover has chosen to stay with his partner, then you must accept that this affair is over.

You may feel that you made the wrong decision by moving away, but what choice did you have?

Even if you had stayed in the same town as your ex, he'd still be with his partner.

Physically you had a great time together, but emotionally he was never really yours.

He was never able to make that ultimate commitment to you.

Things may be grim now, but they will get better. Give yourself until February 1 to grieve, and then make a real effort to get on with your life.

Make plans, book a holiday and set yourself challenges and targets.

Cruel secret of my ruthless ex

MY mother is obsessed with getting me back with my ex. She goes on and on about me "letting a great girl go".

But she has no idea about my ex-girlfriend's drug taking or her problem with booze.

On the surface my ex appears to be a wonderful catch - and my mum is desperate to see my married.

But my ex is also very manipulative and ruthless. During our three

years together I'm ashamed to say she treated me like dirt. She dominated every area of my life. She told me what to wear, what to eat and what to say.

Rage

At times I no longer felt that I had a mind of my own - and she got even worse once she'd had a line of coke or a bottle of wine.

She'd regularly beat me up in bed and tell me that I was mad, but went mental when I tried to finish with

her. I finally found the strength to leave last September after she slashed the tyres of my car in a drunken rage.

Since then she seems to have cleaned up her act and become my mother's new best friend.

Last week I had my mum on the phone for nearly an hour begging me to give my ex a second chance for Christmas.

I feel like I'm being seriously ganged up on. But I don't want to come across as an utter bastard by betraying bedroom secrets - or for my family to think I'm weak.

JANE SAYS: I don't think that you've any choice but to tell your mum the truth.

Your loyalty to your ex-girlfriend is misplaced. I understand that you're trying not to betray confidences. But after what she did to you, she doesn't deserve to be protected.

She had her chance and she blew it by being controlling and cruel. If anything, your mother needs to be warned about her.

At the moment, your mother has only heard one side of the story. I'm convinced that when she's heard yours, she'll be absolutely furious.

Pay her a visit and tell her you need to talk. Then, very gently put her straight.

XMAS IS BANNED

MY wife has been taking tablets for her nerves for nearly two years. But I just don't feel that they're doing her any good. She's no happier and the side effects are horrendous.

I jokingly tell her that she's a junkie, but her moods and behaviour are no laughing matter.

She's already told me that she wants nothing to do with Christmas this year - no tree, no bird, no gifts - because the thought of getting it all together terrifies her.

My mate says that she should chuck all her pills down the toilet. That's what his son did when he came off drugs, but my wife won't hear of it.

She's so down I'm terrified that she's going to do something stupid.

JANE SAYS: Is there any point in taking your wife back to her GP and asking for help? Or are you worried that she'll simply be fobbed off with a new type of drug to try?

You clearly need help and support in this matter, so think about contacting the Counsel for Involuntary Tranquilliser Addiction helpline (0151 281 5496).

Also encourage your wife to take a long walk with you each day. I read recently that walking can be as effective as drugs in treating mild to moderate depression, so aim for an hour each day.

Eating oily fish containing Omega 3 also helps to fight depression. Call Caroline (020 8514 1177) if ever you need support.



JANE'S ADVICE LINES

(Calls cost 60p per minute from a BT landline)

0905 062 2180 : Coping With A Break-up

0905 062 2181 : Finding The Perfect Partner

0905 062 2182 : My Sex Life Is Boring

0905 062 2183 : Boost Your Confidence

0905 062 2184 : The Female Orgasm

0905 062 2185 : My Partner Is Having An Affair

0905 062 2186 : I'm So Lonely

0905 062 2187 : Coping With Jealousy

0905 062 2188 : Having Sex After A Baby

0905 062 2189 : We Argue All The Time

0905 062 2190 : Loving For The First Time

0905 062 2191 : Fantastic Sex

To have a problem answered on this page, write to JUST JANE, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN

PARTY SHOCK

Day Five

EMMA GOES INTO SARAH'S PARTY



CONTINUES TOMORROW

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PER MONTH
WORTH UP TO £120 PER YEAR

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£40 THEREAFTER

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PER MONTH †
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150 TEXTS
PER MONTH
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ALAN FRANK'S

back
ROW

Funnyman Jim Carrey's back

UK TOP 10

- 1 (-) BLADE: TRINITY £2,633,626
- 2 (1) THE INCREDIBLES £2,324,494
- 3 (-) POLAR EXPRESS £2,136,898
- 4 (-) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA £1,219,310
- 5 (2) BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON £863,219
- 6 (3) CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS £680,522
- 7 (4) THE FORGOTTEN £181,941
- 8 (-) GARDEN STATE £128,366
- 9 (8) THE MERCHANT OF VENICE £75,523
- 10 (10) VEER ZAARA £71,845

US TOP 10

- 1 (-) OCEAN'S 12 £39,153,380
- 2 (-) BLADE: TRINITY £16,061,271
- 3 (1) NATIONAL TREASURE £9,832,622
- 4 (3) THE POLAR EXPRESS £9,588,412
- 5 (2) CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS £7,610,848
- 6 (4) THE INCREDIBLES £5,036,631
- 7 (6) SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS £4,357,011
- 8 (5) CLOSER £3,735,153
- 9 (8) FINDING NEVERLAND £1,688,620
- 10 (7) ALEXANDER £1,479,348

© EDI-FACTS

COMING SOON

NEXT WEEK: Leonardo DiCaprio definitely deserves to win the Best Actor Oscar for his magnificent portrait of Hollywood pioneer, record-breaking flier and legendary lover of the stars Howard Hughes in the not-to-be-missed biopic *The Aviator*...

THE WEEK AFTER: Australia is full of killer zombies brought back to life by a swarm of meteorites that bombard a fishing community in the down and dirty *Down Under* shocker *Undead*...

BLOCKBUSTER TOP 10

- 1 (2) HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN
- 2 (1) SPIDER-MAN 2
- 3 (4) ELF
- 4 (3) TROY
- 5 (8) AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS
- 6 (9) SHREK 2
- 7 (-) THUNDERBIRDS
- 8 (-) VAN HELSING
- 9 (5) DAY AFTER TOMORROW
- 10 (7) 13 GOING ON 30



CUNNING:
Billy Connolly
with Emily
Browning and
Liam Aiken

Fab fantasy comes with elf warning

DON'T let the super-cute singing elf that kicks off Jim Carrey's crazy new film fool you into thinking you're in for an overdose of niceness.

After all, the cautionary notice "The movie you are about to see is extremely unpleasant" follows.

It's a strictly tongue-in-cheek warning, of course, since this fabulous fantasy is terrific fun for all the family.

And you can stop worrying about what to take children to see as a pre-Christmas treat, since you just can't do any better than this.

Carrey's at his zany best as a hammy actor and all round bad egg who, given guardianship of three young relatives after they are orphaned by a mystifying fire, sets out to dispose of them for their inheritance.

Fortunately resourceful kids Liam Aiken, Emily Browning and their all-biting baby sister see through Carrey's sinister schemes and outwit him all the way through a series of wildly enjoyable adventures.

Escapes

Harry Potter needs to look to his laurels since the magical mixture of amazing fairy story sets, giant killer leeches, last minute escapes and a baby that only talks in smart cynical subtitles is deliciously darker and even pottier.

The feisty kids hold their own in the face of Carrey's nothing-barred impersonations which include an idiotic Italian with an accent you could pour over

**LEMONY SNICKET'S
A SERIES OF
UNFORTUNATE
EVENTS (PG)**

pasta and a silly sea captain with "one leg and a face like a hen's arse".

For your added delight, Billy Connolly for once doesn't outstay his welcome as a hearty herpetologist who's no snake in the grass, while Meryl Streep's dotty aunt chews the scenery like mad and makes Maggie Smith resemble a mime.

Children and adults alike can't fail to be thrilled and laugh at the series of hugely delightful events writer Robert Gordon and director Brad Silberling have stirred up in this inventive Christmas cracker.

VERDICT: 9/10



STREEP'S AHEAD: Meryl makes an impact

SLEEPOVER (PG)

REMEMBER the one about the put-upon teen who outwits the school bitches?

Of course you do! And here it comes again in a no-cliches-spared variation that finds 14-year-old Alexa Vega and nerdy pals racing against time and disdainful blonde Sara Paxton's posse to win a scavenger

hunt. Spy Kids star Vega is cute and meets the minor demands put on her while bland High School hunk Sean Faris is like a tall Tom Cruise.

Adults are pictured as amiable idiots and while it's painless enough it's eminently forgettable as well.

VERDICT: 5/10

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60
X FACTOR'S STEVE
MY GIRLFRIEND'S
A FLIRT TOO!
IF IT'S HOT, IT'S HERE
new!

Kerry vs Jordan
battle of the babes!

TRUE LIFE
"my Christmas
as a mum of
12 kids!"

I'M A CELEB'S FRAM
"my secret
heartache"

OK!
JILL HALFPENNY
"I danced
myself silly!"

new!
IF IT'S HOT, IT'S HERE

ON SALE NOW

with a hilarious Christmas treat for the whole family



BEAUTY AND BEAST: Anne Hathaway

ELL OF A LOT LIKE SHREK

ELLA ENCHANTED (PG) OKAY, it's obvious this modernised take on Cinderella owes its existence to Shrek.

Oppressed ogres, exploited elves who are "forced to sing and dance" and a medieval mall complete with a wooden escalator give the game away.

But that doesn't make it a bad film and, thanks to a snappy script, smart dialogue (the elf who wants to be a lawyer is unkindly told "That would be in a small claims court") and zesty high spirits, it's slick family fun.

Anne Hathaway has fun as the thoroughly modern maiden out to break the spell forcing her to obey every command. Hugh Dancy plays an amiable Prince Charming while poor Joanna Lumley who overplays the wicked stepmother falls victim to cruel

close-ups that make her look more like an ugly stepsister.

Add to that a sneering talking snake, hissable villain Cary Elwes and lashings of comic invention, and a lively time is had by all.

VERDICT: 7/10

WHEN THE LAST SWORD IS DRAWN (15)

A 19th century samurai swordsman fighting in an elite band of warriors defending Japan's capital lives by his motto "Not to die, but to live" in a long but mostly compelling historical drama.

VERDICT: 5/10

LA DOLCE VITA (15)

THIS 1960 Cannes prize-winner about the paparazzi who pursue posh, pointless prattish jetsetters in Rome still packs a punch thanks to a suitably cynical script.

VERDICT: 7/10

VIDEO EXTRA **PAGE 46**

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At 25cms high, he is made from soft plush, is surface washable and travels in an armchair box with pop-up heart.

So don't be lost for words this Christmas - Say it with a bear!

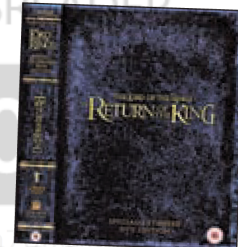
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VIDEO EXTRA

Win last of the Rings...



IT'S the biggest epic trilogy in cinema history - and now we have the final stunning instalment.

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King is the 11-time Academy Award-winning conclusion to this blockbusting film franchise.

Now the special extended DVD edition offers up another 48 minutes of never-seen-before footage.

It all adds up to the most theatrical of features, as

■ by SAM PARKER

little Frodo, his faithful companion Sam, the slippery Gollum, white wizard Gandalf, bow-wielding elf Legolas and swashbuckling Aragorn make their bid to save Middle Earth from ever-lasting evil.

Among the exclusive material that fans can now enjoy for the first time is the return of Saruman (Christopher Lee).

A central character in the trilogy - but not seen in the original release of the movie - the evil wizard now makes a final appear-

ance as he is confronted by Gandalf The White (Sir Ian McKellen) at the ruins of Isengard. Will Saruman at last get the fate he so richly deserves?

Also entirely new to viewers is the Mouth of Sauron, one of the Dark Lord's most horrifying physical manifestations.

Add to that a host of other extras, including 300 new special effects, and this offers up a fittingly spectacular goodbye to the incredible saga that is The Lord of the Rings...

To celebrate the home release of The Lord of the

Rings: The Return of the King, we've got 10 DVDs to give away.

For a chance to win, simply answer this question: How many films have there been in the Lord of the Rings saga?

Enter by calling our hotline, 0905 072 3233, or text FILM followed by a space, give your answer, name and address, and send to 83426.

Calls cost 75p a minute from a BT landline and should last no longer than two minutes. Texts cost £1 plus your usual network rate. Usual Daily Star contest rules apply.

ALAN FRANK'S VIDEO VIEW

TOP TIP
OPEN WATER (15)
(Redbus DVD)

BY the time shivering Blanchard Ryan tells Daniel Travis "I wanted to go skiing", my nerves had been so stretched that I just couldn't help laughing nervously in a futile attempt to lessen the almost intolerable suspense.

Steven Spielberg had stars, proficient producers and a mega-million dollar budget when he made his Jaws in 1985.

But merciless moviemaker Chris Kentis succeeded in scaring me shirtless on a mere \$130,000 budget.

Kentis scores a terrific treble as writer, director and editor after he plunges yuppie holiday-makers Ryan and Travis into a nightmare of mounting terror when they are accidentally stranded in mid-ocean on a scuba-diving outing.

"It may take them a while but they will find us," Travis reassures Blanchard as they drift helplessly in shark-infested waters.

Hope soon starts to sink as time passes with no rescue in sight and total terror sets in.

In fact, only the sharks find the unfortunate couple in this biting open air shocker.

The straightforward story is told with no special effects or mechanical sharks but with stunning cinema skills.

The chills and thrills will have you fretfully watching your watch as the tension tightens.

The unfamiliar actors just add some agonizing realism to the grisly, horrifying impact of this superb fright-fest that grabbed me by the throat and wouldn't let go.

Believe me I didn't go near the water for a very long time - not even to have a bath!

VERDICT: 9/10



BEST OF THE REST
THE ULTIMATE OLIVER STONE COLLECTION (18)
(Warner DVD)

WHILE you're waiting to see what director Oliver Stone has done with the epic story of legendary conqueror Alexander, here's your chance to catch up with 10 of his finest - including Oscar winning Vietnam War drama Platoon.

Charlie Sheen, above, scored strongly as one of the US soldiers facing a baptism of fire and also starred in Stone's sizzling follow up Wall Street which won Michael Douglas a well deserved Oscar.

Stone dissects the bitter aftermath of the Vietnam war in the true story of a veteran, potentially played by Tom Cruise, in Born on the Fourth of July, and he depicts the striking saga of a Vietnamese woman in Heaven and Earth.

Rock star Jim Morrison returned to life and gave Val Kilmer the role of his career in The Doors - Special Edition, while Stone opens his own can of worms reliving the Kennedy's assassination in JFK Special Edition Director's Cut, and James Woods comes up with a powerhouse performance in the gritty drama Salvador.

Stone gives Quentin Tarantino a real run for his money and wins the race with the black, black comedy thriller Natural Born Killers, puts Al Pacino through his paces on the football gridiron in Any Given Sunday Special Edition Director's Cut and delivers an entertaining one-of-a-kind thriller with U-Turn.

VERDICT: 8/10

FAMILY CHOICE
JOHN WAYNE: IN ACTION (PG)
(Universal DVD)

WHILE nobody rode the range with more style and charisma than John Wayne, The Duke also scored in a variety of

other screen shows like the six action movies in this fascinating collection, never before released in the UK.

Wayne, his character based on real-life hero Red Adair, travels the

world tackling oil well fires in Hellfighters - which mixes blazing action with quiet family drama - and takes to the high seas to oppose a shipping magnate in his professional and personal life in the gritty action show Wake of the Red Witch.

Tycoon sees Wayne back on terra firma building a tunnel through the Andes but still finding time to romance the boss's daughter. And he wins out in Alaska in the rousing adventure The Spoilers while wooing Marlene Dietrich.

He struts his stuff under the Big Top playing the owner of a travelling circus touring Europe and wooing Rita Hayworth in The Magnificent Showman and he's the movies' least likely Genghis Kahn in the unique epic The Conqueror.

VERDICT: 7/10

BEST BUY
THE SIMPSONS SEASONS 1-4, FAMILY GUY SEASONS 1-3, FUTURAMA 1-4 (PG)
(Fox DVD, two for £39.99) LAUGH all the way to Christmas and then beyond and let the comedy ease the pain of the January bills...

Here's a fab pre-Xmas offer that lets you BOGOF (buy-one-get-one-free) any two DVDs of these classic small screen comedies.

The first four seasons of The Simpsons serves up a not-to-be-missed helping of the funniest and most famous dysfunctional family ever, headed by the immortal Homer ("Trying is the first step towards failure").

Family Guy, from the creators of King of the Hill, features another dysfunctional and splendidly subversive comic family, while in Simpsons creator Matt Groening's inspired sci-fi comedy Futurama the future has never been funnier.

VERDICT: 8/10

FIRST FOR ALL CELEBRITY NEWS

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DAVID & VICTORIA

CHRISTMAS AT HOME
WORLD EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW & PICTURES

KERRY KATONA

X FACTOR WINNER STEVE

JENNIFER ELLISON & FIANCE TONY

NADIA EXCLUSIVE

WHY I CHECKED MYSELF INTO THE PRIORY

FIRST EVER INTERVIEW & NEW PICTURES

MY FIRST CHRISTMAS AS A WOMAN

YOUR FREE HOT STARS MAGAZINE INSIDE

PLUS:
FREE
INSIDE
OK!



TWO
GREAT
MAGS
FOR THE
PRICE
OF ONE

CELEBRITIES: WE'VE GOT THEM COVERED



TV GUIDE



- 6.00 BREAKFAST** (T) 91773982. 9.15 Moneyspinners (T) 8776140. 10.00 Homes Under The Hammer (T) 67524. 11.00 Builders Sweat And Tears (T) 1104. 11.30 Trading Up (T) 2833.
- 12.00 BARGAIN HUNT** Tim Wonnacott presents from the Antiques & Collectors Fair in Newark (T) 44036.
- 12.30 NEWS REVIEW OF THE YEAR** Huw Edwards looks back at the stories that hit the headlines in 2004 (T) 61291.
- 1.00 BBC NEWS: WEATHER** (T) 81104.
- 1.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** 41081497.
- 1.40 NEIGHBOURS** See 5.35pm for programme details (T) 32884814.
- 2.05 DOCTORS** Jack sees his goddaughter in a different light when he discovers her new lifestyle. The Christmas party is filled with romance. There's a surprise for George and Ronnie (T) 98619659.
- 2.35 MURDER, SHE WROTE** Murder mystery series. Car trouble strands Jessica and a fellow writer, signed to adapt one of her novels to the screen, at a run-down desert motel (Rpt) (T) 2402272.
- 3.20 BBC NEWS, REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 8952659.
- 3.25 CBEBIES: NICOLE'S FURRY FRIENDS FRIDAY: BINKA** (Rpt) (T) 8935982. 3.35 The Koala Brothers (Rpt) (T) 9963949. 3.45 CBBC: Mona The Vampire (Rpt) (T) 9797123. 4.05 The Scooby, Scrappy And Yabba Doo Show (Rpt) (T) 4622098. 4.30 The Basil Brush Show (T) 291. 5.00 Blue Peter (T) 6446017. 5.25 Newsround (T) 5054942.
- 5.35 NEIGHBOURS** Sky worries that Lana will succumb to pressure from Brendan. Stuart's advice pushes Sindi and Toadie back together. Susan and Libby try to fight their addiction to a Brazilian soap (Rpt) (T) 320123.
- 6.00 BBC NEWS** (T) 456.
- 6.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 956.
- 7.00 A QUESTION OF SPORT** Sue Barker asks the questions in the popular sports quiz, with captains Matt Dawson and Ally McCoist. Alongside Matt is Pat Cash and Gail Emms. Joining Ally is Mark Williams and Thomas Castagnede (T) 6807.
- 7.30 TOP OF THE POPS** The best of the week's Top 20 chart, live bands and the No 1 single (T) 920.
- 8.00 EASTENDERS** Paul faces a stark choice – can the love of his family triumph or will the lure of easy money lead to his downfall? Stacey attempts to turn over a new leaf. Dennis packs his bags (T) 9765.
- 8.30 MY DAD'S THE PRIME MINISTER** Sitcom about an underachieving boy who is constantly embarrassed by his successful father. Pressure mounts for the PM as he confronts the serious business of having his portrait painted (T) 8272.
- 9.00 HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU** Comedy quiz show that grills celebrity contestants on the week's news. Hosted by Ronnie Corbett, with team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton and guests Amanda Donohue and Tracey Emin (T) 1340.
- 9.30 LITTLE BRITAIN** Matt Lucas and David Walliams take a comic look at life in Britain. With Anthony Head and Jamie Theakston (T) 58727.
- 10.00 BBC NEWS** (T) 45765.
- 10.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** 515494.
- 10.35 FRIDAY NIGHT WITH JONATHAN ROSS** Guests include Cilla Black, Martin Scorsese and Johnny Vegas, while music is provided by The Beautiful South (T) 664524.
- 11.35 FILM: HALLOWEEN III: SEASON OF THE WITCH** (1983) (See Guide) 789543.
- 1.10-6.00 BBC NEWS 24** 54108321.



- 6.00 CBBC 8829388. 8.00** CBeebies 1661369. **10.30** BBC Primary Geography (T) 2542185. **11.40** Writing Across The Curriculum (Rpt) (T) 8392017. **12.00** Chickens Come Home 42678. **12.30** Working Lunch 44974.
- 1.30 FILM: THE FALCON'S ALIBI** (1946) (See Guide) 94433. **2.30** Racing From Windsor (T) 76833. **4.00** Escape To The Country 949. **4.30** Ready Steady Cook (T) 3126104. **5.15** Weakest Link (Rpt) (T) 7116727. **6.00** Flog It! (Rpt) (T) 758. **6.30** Beg, Borrow Or Steal 678. **7.00** HeadJam (Rpt) (T) 8659.
- 7.30 FIGHTING TALK** Johnny Vaughan hosts the sports punditry game (T) 562.
- 8.00 GARDENERS' WORLD** The team add a touch of Christmas magic to Berryfields and give horticultural ideas to make the festive season extra special 6901.



CHAT: Ross, BBC1, 10.35pm

- 9.00 THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE: DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD** Ceasefire between the trenches on Christmas Day 1914 (T) 6765.
- 10.00 QI Quiz show** (T) 43307.
- 10.30 NEWSNIGHT** (T) 29277.
- 11.00 NEWSNIGHT REVIEW** (T) 438456. **11.45** BBC Four Sessions 341185. **12.45** Film: Count The Hours (1953) (See Guide) 15215.
- 2.00-6.00 BBC Learning Zone** 15215.
- REGIONAL VARIATIONS:** Wales – 6.30 Malcolm In The Middle 426272. 6.50 Scrums V Live 68531475. **9.00** Gardeners' World 6765.



MIKE WARD WHAT'S HOT TO WATCH

YOU won't believe how many shows are coming to the end of their runs tonight. (Or maybe you will, seeing as it's hardly worth me bothering to lie about it.) Some of them we'll be gutted to lose, most notably, When Jordan Met Peter (ITV1, 11pm), which tonight features a romantic trip to Eurodisney. (Incidentally, a warm hello to the reader who keeps dropping me

offensive letters whenever I write something nice about Jordan. Don't forget to renew your prescription before the Christmas rush, pal.) Also coming to an end is Have I Got News For You (BBC1, 9pm). Ronnie Corbett's in the chair tonight, so I hope someone's plumped up his cushion. Then there's Max & Paddy's Road To Nowhere (Channel 4, 9.30pm), Peep Show (Channel 4, 10pm),

My Dad's The Prime Minister (BBC1, 8.30pm), and, most devastating of all, House Doctor: Designs For Living (Five, 9pm). Still, we're only half way through the current series of Little Britain (BBC1, 9.30pm), so I think we'll cope. Tonight, Lou takes wheelchair-bound Andy to an ice rink. You can spot the gags coming a mile off but that's the whole point.

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- 6.10 THE HOOBOS 5542123.** 7.00 B4 5293456. 7.25 Friends (Rpt) (T) 5296543. 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond (Rpt) 1420543. 8.25 King Of Queens 8827920. 8.55 Futurama (Rpt) 6036814. 9.30 Chancers (Rpt) (T) 50185. 10.00 Lynx Base 24-7 83562. 11.00 Friends (Rpt) (T) 4814. 11.30 Friends (Rpt) (T) 5543. 12.00 News 37746. 12.30 Cheers (Rpt) (T) 54901. 1.00 Ed 1292104. 1.50 Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman 1503562. 2.45 The Courtroom (Rpt) 120369. 3.15 Countdown (T) 4670746. 4.00 A Place In The Sun (T) 8494. 5.00 Richard & Judy (T) 2098.

- 6.00 THE SIMPSONS** (T) 494. 6.30 Hollyoaks 746. 7.00 News (T) 451524. 7.45 The West Wing 294982.

- 8.30 FRIENDS** (Rpt) (T) 1982.
- 9.00 THE SIMPSONS** A snowstorm traps the students in school 4678.

- 9.30 MAX AND PADDY'S ROAD TO NOWHERE** A speed camera is the catalyst for a string of bad luck for the pair (T) 74765.

- 10.00 PEEP SHOW** Jeremy and Nancy decide to marry for visa reasons 343494.

- 10.35 FATHER TED CHRISTMAS SPECIAL** The priests get lost in a store's lingerie department (Rpt) (T) 6730272.

- 11.45 BO' SELECTA!** (Rpt) (T) 735119. 12.20 Goldie Lookin' Chain 7954654.

- 12.55 Popworld 5610147.** 1.40 Hit40uk 6635321. 2.05 Andromeda 3473128. 3.40 Skiing World Cup 552499.

- 5.25-6.10 Countdown** (Rpt) (T) 8972654.

- S4C** As Channel 4 except: 8.50 Cheers 1586689. 9.15 Supporting Acts 9435108. 9.25 Third Watch 3841676. 10.15 Dr Quinn 6872792. 12.30 Binca 12522036. 12.40 Barrig 23426966. 1.00 Sam Tan 43410746. 1.15 A Place In The Sun 20729071. 4.00 Used 5 69688727. 6.00 The Simpsons 68721307. 6.30 Rownd A Rownd 74305104. 7.25 News 52574340. 7.55 Calendar Advert 40226307. 8.00 Pobel Y Cwm 11769253. 8.25 Yma Mae Nghan 50462833. 9.30 Friends 15135920. 10.00 The Simpsons 58300785. 10.30 Max And Paddy's Road To Nowhere 5806185. 11.00 Father Ted Christmas Special 9894804. 12.10 Peep Show 87965188. 12.40 101 Film: Rise With The Devil (1999) 13987692. 3.05 Freepsports On 4 74521321. 3.30 Brazilian Football Championship 72904925. 5.25-6.10 Close



- 6.00 SUNRISE 7535727. 6.30** Milkshake! 3526098. **9.25** Wright Stuff 84626456. **10.30** Sunset Beach (Rpt) (T) 2534659. **11.25** House Doctor 19966746. **11.50** Wright Stuff Extra 38997253. **12.00** News 1181730. **12.30** Home And Away (Rpt) 2847369. **1.00** Family Affairs 3849098. **1.35** BrainTeaser 3858746. **2.35** Children's Hospital 1977340. **3.35** News 97658746. **3.40** Film: One Special Night (1999) (See Guide) 1464920.

BEST SHOPPING BEST DEALS

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NTL CH. 637

8AM TO MIDNIGHT - 7 DAYS A WEEK

- 5.30 NEWS** (T) 8542164. **6.00** Home And Away (T) 3511807. **6.30** Family Affairs (T) 9816299. **7.00** News (T) 4828727. **7.30** Lenin: The First Modern Mummy (T) 7911663.

- 8.00 HOT PROPERTY** (Rpt) (T) 4837475.
- 8.30 HOUSEBUSTERS** Janet Ellis invites three experts to heal a house 4816982.

- 9.00 HOUSE DOCTOR: DESIGNS FOR LIVING** Ann Maurice helps a couple over the decoration of their house 48458017.

- 10.05 FILM: SANCTUARY** (1997) (See Guide) 18555123. **12.20** Film: Manhunt: Search For The Night Stalker (1989) (See Guide) 2129925. **1.55** Film: My Friend Joe (1996) (See Guide) 5567316. **3.30** The Love Boat (T) 8824925. **4.20** Russell Grant's Postcards (Rpt) (T) 87313470. **4.25** Melrose Place 9391741.

- 5.10-6.00 Sons And Daughters** (T) 78824895.



- 6.00 GMTV 7416765. 9.25** Trisha (T) 4040938. **10.30** This Morning (T) 37475. **12.30** ITV Lunchtime News, Weather (T) 63659.
- 1.00 TODAY WITH DES AND MEL** Des O'Connor and Melanie Sykes host the daily entertainment and celebrity talk show (T) 51814.
- 2.00 I WANT THAT HOUSE** Advice on how to buy a holiday home or move abroad. This programme comes live from Florida (T) 1369.
- 2.30 WILDLIFE SOS** Local schoolchildren help out on a rescue. Simon gets called out to a duck who seems to prefer swimming pools to ponds. The police need help with a deer hit by a car. And a swan seems unwilling to leave a car park 123.
- 3.00 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** 6844833.
- 3.15 MIFFY AND FRIENDS** (Rpt) 8940814. **3.20** Engie Benji (Rpt) (T) 8961307. **3.30** Atomic Betty. In Spindly Tam Kanushu, Betty's old martial arts trainer thwarts Maximus's war-mongering plans (Rpt) (T) 340. **4.00** Best Friends. After being caught trying to run away with Alice, Gemma finds herself grounded indefinitely 475. **4.30** Best Friends. When Gemma arrives at Alice's house, she is horrified to find another girl there and her temper gets the better of her 659.
- 5.00 I WANT THAT HOUSE** The winner of a five-bedroom house in Florida is revealed in this live show (T) 4456.
- 6.00 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 524.
- 6.30 ITV EVENING NEWS, WEATHER** 104.
- 7.00 EMMERDALE** Viv and Bob decide to split up. The future looks bright for Len and Pearl – but Edna's not convinced. Eric pretends to Val that he's planning a Christmas to remember (T) 5185.
- 7.30 CORONATION STREET** Martin (Sean Wilson) takes his revenge on Warren and Jason is shocked by a confession by Violet. Elsewhere, Ashley finds himself with three best men (T) 388.
- 8.00 TONIGHT WITH TREVOR MCDONALD** As the singles market continues to collapse, will the new Band Aid release be the last ever Christmas No 1? (T) 4833.
- 8.30 A TOUCH OF FROST** Drama series about Detective Inspector Jack Frost, a man who uses some unconventional methods to solve crime. When a beautiful woman is found dead in a car park, the list of suspects leads Jack Frost into the heart of a religious community (Rpt) (T) 21253.
- 10.30 ITV NEWS** (T) 16253.
- 11.00 WHEN JORDAN MET PETER** It's Christmas, which means a trip to Eurodisney, a massive spending spree and all the trials and tribulations of having the family over for dinner. Will they survive the pressure? And there's talk of the impending wedding (T) 8253.
- 11.30 BIG NIGHT OUT** Series that looks at six very different nights out in the capital. City workers Sarju Patel and Steve Graham step into the ring in front of a thousand people for a one-off bout of white-collar boxing 52104.
- 12.00 LATE NIGHT LADIES** Table dancer Anna-Lisa reveals her opinions on men and piercing artist Francesca insists there's no gain without pain 3530166. **12.35** The Frank Skinner Show (Rpt) 6277760. **1.40** Film: The Star Maker (1995) (See Guide) 260079. **3.25** Christian Slater's Orange Playlist (Rpt) (T) 47522692. **3.50** Entertainment Now! (T) 29452586. **4.20** Tonight With Trevor McDonald (Rpt) (T) 48020708. **4.45** ITV Newsnight 9739596. **5.30-6.00** ITV Early Morning News 12811.

ITV1 MERIDIAN

As **ITV1 Meridian** except: 2.30 The Grand Tour. Guide Carol Kenwright takes us on a tour of Chertwell – maintained today as Sir Winston Churchill and his family still live there 123. 3.00 Meridian News, Weather 6844833. **6.00** Meridian Tonight 524. **11.30** The Frame. The stone that has been quarried on the Isle of Purbeck is a favourite for sculptors, who celebrate with an annual stone-carving festival centred on a local pub 52104. **12.00-12.35** Hell For Leather. Following the region's speed fanatics as they make their mark in the world of motor sport 3530166.

ITV1 WESTCOUNTRY

As **ITV1 London** except: 2.30 Arts And Crafts. Today's show comes from a Christmas fair in Plymouth, including a charity auction in aid of St Luke's Hospice. Hosted by Sara Hales and Dave Wills 123. 3.00 West Country News 6844833. **6.00** West Country Live. Regional news from across the South West, with the latest weather forecast 524. **11.30** Alcohol Wars. This show looks at the short and long term effects of drinking on people's health 52104. **12.00-12.35** The Summer Of Love. The last programme in the series features a dinner party with a difference 3530166.

ITV1 ANGLIA

As **ITV1 London** except: 2.30 Streetcombers. Andy Kane and Roo Ryde meet people who put unwanted furniture outside their houses, and the streetcombers who give them another life. Today, they spend the day in Hingham 123. **3.00** Anglia News, Weather. The latest news from across the region, and weather 6844833. **6.00** Anglia Tonight. News, features and sport from around the east of England 524. **11.30-12.00** Point Of View. Surreal drama set in Suffolk, which follows a factory manager's desperate attempt to hide a guilty secret – the fact that he cannot read 264098.

ITV1 CENTRAL

As **ITV1 London** except: 2.30 Out Of The Frying Pan II. Highlights of the series in which unwitting individuals spend an evening as a commercial cook. Some of the participants reflect on their experiences 123. 3.00 Central News, Weather, Lifeline. The latest news from the region and a look at the weather 6844833. **6.00** Central News At Six, Weather. Evening news from around the region. 524. **11.30-12.35** First Cut. Short films by new directors. Featuring, Bouncing Back, A Common Place, Knock Knock, Anonymous Humorous, Deliver Us from Evil, and Taxi 264098.

ITV1 WEST

As **ITV1 London** except: 2.30 Beat The Dealer (Wales: 2.30 Food For All Seasons) 123. 3.00 West/Wales News, Weather 6844833. **6.00** West/Wales News, Weather 524. **11.30** Grave Detectives. Professor David Wilson and Chris Serle unravel the mysteries behind forgotten gravestones. The team are taken to the grave of Eliza Balsam (Wales: 11.30 Crime Secrets) 52104. **12.00-12.35** Bikes Cops. In the last programme of the series, it is time for the written test for the Bikes Cop rookies at HC (Wales: 12.00-12.35 When Jordan Met Peter) 3530166.

SKY

6.00 DR PHIL 35712. **7.00** Kong 19901. **7.30** Batman 38036. **8.00** Gameville 53543. **9.00** The X-Files (T) 7333807. **9.55** Buffy The Vampire Slayer (T) 3984765. **10.50** Angel (T) 8503901. **11.45** ER (T) 261475. **12.45** Scrubs (T) 768543. **1.15** The X-Files. Mulder and Scully uncover a covert military plan to use a mysterious alien power source (T) 5344833. **2.10** Dr Phil. Life strategist Dr Phil McGraw suggests ways to make the most of the festive season 5002678. **3.05** Buffy The Vampire Slayer. Buffy finds that the scythe is immensely powerful and tries to find out more about it, while Xander takes Dawn with him out of town to safety (T) 1906369. **4.00** Buffy The Vampire Slayer. Final episode. Buffy and Caleb have a final fight, and the First Evil warns Buffy that it is everywhere and will never die (T) 19388. **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation. Sci-fi drama series about the crew of the USS Enterprise. The crew capture an escaped prisoner from the planet Angosia's penal colony (T) 3956. **6.00** Battlestar Galactica. An updated version of the popular Seventies sci-fi adventure series. Adam finds Tigh's wife alive and emotions run high as everyone is a suspect (T) 97630.



BUCCANEER: Geena, 8pm

7.00 THE SIMPSONS
Will the caustic supervisor at Miss Wickerbottom's pre-nursery school allow Maggie entry? Featuring guest star Simon Cowell (T) 1765.

7.30 THE SIMPSONS
After Bart witnesses a tender moment between Principal Skinner and Mrs Krabappel, he decides to blackmail the unsuspecting pair (T) 3475.

8.00 FILM: CUTTHROAT ISLAND (1995) The feisty daughter of a dying buccaneer embarks on a hunt for a legendary hoard of treasure. She is bequeathed part of a treasure map and begins a race against time to prevent her wicked uncles from getting their hands on the loot. Swashbuckling adventure, starring Geena Davis, Matthew Modine and Frank Langella 55635920.

10.20 EUROMILLIONS DRAW Live coverage of the draw 920814.

10.25 THE MATCH REUNION
Revisiting the football reality show where a squad of football-obsessed celebrities took on a Legends XI. The players meet up to relive the best moments 5970794.

11.55 STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION The crew capture an escaped prisoner from the planet Angosia's penal colony (T) 610123.

12.55 GAMEVILLE (Rpt) 4664944. **1.50** Angel (Rpt) (T) 9494128. **2.40** ER (Rpt) 4011383. **3.30** ER (Rpt) 9072418. **4.20** The Sharon Osbourne Show 8751741. **5.10** Kong (Rpt) 8188925. **5.35-6.00** What About Mimi? 6043760.



BIKER: Kurt Russell, Sky Movies 2, 8pm

SKY MOVIES 1

6.05 Radio Flyer (1992) 23599901 **8.05** Ice Bound (2003) 95011746 **10.05** Race To Space (2001) 98112814 **12.05** Christy: Return To Cutter Gap (2001) 403494 **2.05** Radio Flyer (1992) 610982 **4.05** Ice Bound (2003) Drama 94986758 **6.05** Race To Space (2001) Drama, starring James Woods 10217494 **8.00** Secondhand Lions (2003) Children's adventure, starring Robert Duvall 87376833 **9.50** Blood Work (2002) Thriller, starring Clint Eastwood 703562 **11.40** Maiden Voyage Ocean Hijack (2002) Drama, starring Casper Van Dien 102659 **1.10** Entropy (1999) 851166 **3.10** I'm Losing You (1998) 554741 **4.55-6.55** Meeting Venus (1991) 72875147

SKY MOVIES 2

5.05 Abilene (1999) 19175098 **6.50** Wolfe Goes Out (2001) 23693678 **8.30** US Top Ten 86036 **9.00** Big And Hair (1997) 99099562 **10.45** The Christmas Shoes (2002) 70753456 **12.25** Bionic Showdown (1989) 394307 **2.05** US Top Ten 11095746 **2.35** Big And Hair (1997) 27635659 **4.15** Bionic Showdown (1989) 19089901 **6.00** The Christmas Shoes (2002) Drama 46920 **8.00** Escape From LA (1996) Thriller, starring Kurt Russell 58765 **10.00** A Man Apart (2003) 228562 **11.55** Planes, Trains And Automobiles (1987) Comedy 688475 **1.30** Warning: Parental Advisory (2002) 136673 **3.05** Parisian Sex Kittens (2001) 851166 **4.40-6.20** Wolfe Stays In (2001) 80890586

SKY CINEMA 1

6.00 Chaplin Today: A King In New York 2708307 **6.35** A Chorus Line (1985) 46674663 **8.35** Hellcats Of The Navy (1957) 15674456 **10.05** Xmas On Sky Movies 1674017 **10.30** A King In New York (1957) 98996494 **12.15** A Chorus Line (1985) 3350388 **2.15** Jamaica Inn (1939) 1023543 **4.00** A King In New York (1957) 91350185 **5.45** Chaplin Today: A King In New York 6074036 **6.30** Hellcats Of The Navy (1957) War drama 61685253 **8.15** Arthur (1981) Comedy 82712272 **10.00** The Exorcist (1973) Horror 95177302 **12.05** Dracula Has Risen From The Grave (1968) 6890352 **1.45** The Razor's Edge (1984) 87417789 **4.00-6.00** Jamaica Inn (1939) 7632091

SKY BOX OFFICE

Today's films on Sky Box Office Digital at various times throughout the day are: Shaun Of The Dead (2004), Bad Boys II (2003), Our House (2003), School Of Rock (2004), Starsky And Hutch (2004), Along Came Polly (2004), Butchery Effect (2004), Girl Next Door (2004), My Boss's Daughter (2003), Passion Of The Christ (2004), 21 Grams (2003), House Of Sand And Fog (2003), Perfect Score (2003), Station Agent (2003), Welcome To The Jungle (2003), A Date With Tad Hamilton (2004), Wonderland (2003), Agent Cody Banks 2 (2004), Cat In The Hat (2003), Scooby-Doo 2 (2004), Calcium Kid (2004), Lost in Translation (2003)

telly movies

STAR RATINGS

****Don't miss it
****Good ***Average
**Time filler *Garbage!

THE FALCON'S ALIBI (1946) b/w ***
BBC2, 1.30-2.30pm. B feature thriller. Private detective Tom Conway battles to prove his innocence when the jewels he has been hired to protect go missing. Co-starring Rita Corday and Vince Barnett.

ONE SPECIAL NIGHT (1999) ***
Five, 3.40-5.30pm. Romantic drama. A relationship blossoms when builder James Garner finds himself stranded in a snow storm with Julie Andrews, his ailing wife's nurse. With Stacy Grant.

SANCTUARY (1997) *** Five, 10.05pm-12.20am. Espionage thriller. Assassin-turned-priest Mark Dacascos has to get his bearings - and his guns - when pursued by killers. Also starring Alan Scarfe and Kylie Travis.

HALLOWEEN III: SEASON OF THE WITCH (1983) **** BBC1, 11.35pm-1.10am. Shocker. Deranged toy tycoon Dan O'Herlihy plots to murder millions of children on Halloween night by distributing gruesome and lethal Halloween masks.

MANHUNT: SEARCH FOR THE NIGHT STALKER (TVM, 1989) ***
Five, 12.20-1.55am. Fact-based crime. Two LA detectives lead the investigation into a string of crimes in California.

COUNT THE HOURS (1953) b/w ***
BBC2, 12.45-2.00am. B feature thriller. When a ranch hand and his wife are accused of murdering their employer a local lawyer comes to their defense.

THE STARMAKER (1995) ** ITV1, 1.40-3.25am. Comedy-drama. A conman who swindles people in Fifties Sicily by posing as a talent scout changes for the better when he falls in love.

MY FRIEND JOE (1996) *** Five, 1.55-3.30am. Coming-of-age drama. A 13-year-old schoolboy and his new friend become inseparable until things go off course when the lad finds out his new friend isn't exactly what he expected.

ALAN FRANK

FILMFOUR

6.00 BUILD MY GALLOWES HIGH (1947) Film noir, starring Robert Mitchum 6616098

8.00 CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS (1989) A doctor is forced to take extreme action against his mistress when she threatens to reveal their affair. Black comedy, starring Woody Allen 6611543

10.00 BLUE VELVET (1986) A college kid finds himself drawn into a world of sexual depravity and violence. Drama, starring Kyle MacLachlan 5266611

12.00 BONE (1972) The tables are turned on a thief out to rip off a wealthy Beverly Hills family. Comedy, starring Yaphet Kotto 7434876

1.45 Vendredi Soir (2002) Drama, starring Valerie Lemerrier 7350321

3.30 INTIMACY (2001) Drama, starring Kerry Fox 7521692

5.25 CLOSE

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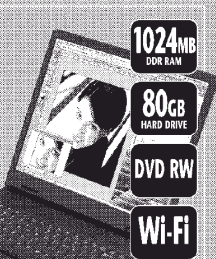
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E4

2.00 WITHOUT A TRACE See 6pm 63460017
3.00 CAN YOU PULL... BRITNEY?
A 26-year-old wheel-seller from Norfolk attempts to pull Britney Spears 29523291
3.30 SMALLVILLE: SUPERMAN THE EARLY YEARS See 7pm 19304901
4.30 HOLLYOAKS Cameron claims to have amnesia, and is terrified 99298340
5.00 FRIENDS See 8pm 29535036
5.30 FRIENDS See 8.30pm 99212920
6.00 WITHOUT A TRACE The team searches for a neurosurgeon who disappeared after a night-time jog with her ex-husband 81858307
7.00 SMALLVILLE: SUPERMAN THE EARLY YEARS Clark is furious when Pete asks him to use his powers to stop street-racing promoters who have threatened his life 10115340
8.00 FRIENDS Joey wonders if he is in love with Monica 29524920
8.30 FRIENDS Rachel has an interview for a great job, but it looks like she might get it for the wrong reasons 29510727
9.00 RAMSAY'S KITCHEN NIGHTMARES Gordon Ramsay visits Moore Place in Esher where the joint owners' complete lack of know-how in the kitchen is inhibiting their attempts at creating a profitable business 10111524
10.00 T4 MOVIE SPECIAL: CHRISTMAS WITH THE FRANKS A report on the film which stars Tim Allen, Dan Aykroyd and Jamie Lee Curtis 57012727
10.30 THE LAST CHANCERS Gentle satire about a Brighton-based rock band 84975765
11.05 FOOL AROUND... WITH MY GIRLFRIEND A reality show bringing a twist to the whole dating game by testing how far couples will push their relationships for money 84655123
11.35 GREEN WING Love is in the air but confusion still reigns. Martin loves Caroline, Caroline loves Mac, but Mac has a girlfriend. Guy pretends to love Caroline but he really loves himself. All will become clear 28306630
12.40 Hollyoaks 1.10 The Last Chancers 1.40 The Secret Life Of Us 2.35 The Secret Life Of Us 3.20 Fool Around... With My Girlfriend 3.50 Close

BBC THREE

7.00 The 7 O'Clock News On BBC Three 7.30 Body Hits 8.00 Trauma 8.30 Little Angels 9.00 1-2 F U Jonathan Ross presents a fast, furious and slightly deranged look at one of the 20th century's most exciting musical movements - punk rock 10.00 EastEnders 10.30 Outlaws 11.00 Little Britain 11.30 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 12.00 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 12.30 1-2 F U 1.25 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 1.55 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 2.25 Outlaws 2.55 Who Rules The Roost? 3.55 Close

SCI-FI

6.00 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 7.00 Teleshopping 10.00 Quantum Leap 11.00 The Lone Gunmen 12.00 Witchblade 1.00 The Pretender 2.00 Ghost Stories 3.00 The Outer Limits 4.00 Quantum Leap 5.00 Ghost Stories 6.00 Witchblade 7.00 The Pretender 8.00 Children Of Dune 9.35 The New Twilight Zone 10.00 Film: Child's Play 2 (1990) Horror 11.35 Film: Child's Play 3 (1991) Horror 1.10 Film: The Man Who Fell To Earth (1976) Science fiction 3.40 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 4.05 Lexx 5.05-6.00 Tracker

BRAVO

9.00 CHiPs 10.00 Marlin Cup 11.00 Alias 12.00 Games Attack 12.30 Gamer TV 1.00 Street Crime 1.30 Dumbest Criminals 2.45 Seven Days 3.40 Target: Earth 4.30 GamePad 4 5.00 Gamer TV 5.30 Games Attack 6.00 Knight Rider 7.00 Street Crime 7.30 Games Attack 8.00 Alias 9.00 Outrageous 9.30 Street Crime 10.00 Booze Britain 10.30 Premiership Diaries 11.00 World Of Pain 12.00 Cops, Cars... 12.30 Laid Bare 1.00 Sin Cities 2 1.30 Brides Abroad 2.00 Exposure 2.55 Excentriks 3.00 Close



COME DANCING: Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston, ITV2, 9.30pm

UKTV GOLD

6.00 Neighbours 6.30 As Time Goes By 7.10 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum 7.50 Doctors 8.25 EastEnders 9.00 The Bill 10.00 It Wouldn't Be Christmas Without... Top Ten 11.00 Casualty 12.00 Doctors 12.40 EastEnders 1.20 Keeping Up Appearances
2.00 BERGERAC See 6pm 4494475
3.00 THE BILL Smith's involvement with a dangerous racist puts Brownlow's covert operation in jeopardy 2956017
4.00 IT WOULDN'T BE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT... TOP TEN Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen presents a countdown of British festive traditions 2935524
5.00 CASUALTY It's Lara's first day back, and Harry has to distract the attention of the press waiting outside the hospital 5814659
6.00 BERGERAC Jim is guarding a priceless set of porcelain figures from China 3406475
7.00 IT AIN'T HALF HOT, MUM
A lady welfare officer falls madly in love with Captain Ashwood 9598746
7.40 KEEPING UP APPEARANCES
Hyacinth is thrilled when the wealthy Mrs Fortescue asks for a lift into town 9957456
8.20 AS TIME GOES BY Having flown in from LA, Lionel thinks they should rest, but Jean insists on returning to work 6074625
9.00 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES Del and Rodney attend Grandad's funeral 2864611
9.35 IT WOULDN'T BE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT... A short story about the things that make Christmas special 1026369
9.40 MY FAMILY Nick decides to get his own flat 8764185
10.20 PORRIDGE Fletcher is incensed when a third cellmate arrives 3596562
11.00 ONE FOOT IN THE GRAVE Margaret comes into some money, and Victor helps a young Dutch girl to get back on her feet 7899456
11.40 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES See 9pm 7064524
12.20 My Family 1.00 Porridge 1.40 One Foot In The Grave 2.15 The Kumars At No 42 2.50 The Bill 3.50 Where The Heart Is 4.45 As Time Goes By 5.20-6.00 Birds Of A Feather

ITV3

6.00 Survival 6.55 Peak Practice 7.55 Quincy, ME 9.00 Chicago Hope 9.50 Movies Now 10.00 The Practice 10.55 LA Law 11.55 Survival 1.00 Quincy, ME 2.00 The Practice 2.50 Film: File 3.00 Chicago Hope 3.55 LA Law 4.55 Peak Practice 6.00 The Practice 7.00 Outside Edge 7.30 Cadfael, Brother Cadfael and his colleagues welcome a young man who expresses an urgent wish to join the order. But when Canon Eluard arrives to question him about a disappearance, Cadfael looks into the real reasons behind his arrival 9.00 Film: The First Great Train Robbery (1978) A gentleman crook and a master safe-cracker attempt the first moving train robbery - their target a British Army payroll on its way to the Crimean War. Period thriller, starring Sean Connery and Donald Sutherland 11.05 Cold Feet 12.05 Chicago Hope 12.55 Film: The First Great Train Robbery (1978) Period thriller 3.00-6.00 Teleshopping

EXPRESS SHOPPING CHANNEL

(SKY 636, NTL 637) 8.00 Express Shopping Daytime 5.00 Winter Warmers 6.00 In The Kitchen 7.00 Beauty Essentials 8.00 Our Choice 9.00 Luxury Amethyst 10.00 Last Minute 11.00 Our Choice 12.00 Close

TELEVISION X

(SKY 969) 10.00 Freeview 10.10 Be The Mask 10.30 Omar 11.00 Freeview 11.10 C'me On My Face 11.30 Close-Up 11.50 Top With Me 12.00 Freeview 12.10 30 And Dirty 12.20 British Slits 12.40 Superdick 1.00 Freeview 1.10 Lubed 1.30 Fantasy Fix It 1.50 Exhibitionist 2.10 R*tal Rooter 4.10 Pornland: Asian Babes 5.00 Close

lifestyle telly

CHALLENGE

6.00 Teleshopping 7.00 Gladiators 8.00 The Crystal Maze 9.00 Fort Boyard 10.00 100% 10.30 TV Scrabble 11.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right 11.30 Family Fortunes 12.00 Wheel Of Fortune 12.30 Catchphrase 1.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 2.00 The Krypton Factor 2.30 Bullseye 3.00 Celebrity TV Bloopers 4.00 The Crystal Maze 5.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 6.00 Takeshi's Castle 7.00 Swap 7.30 Ultimate Guinness World Records 8.00 The Krypton Factor 8.30 Bullseye 9.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 10.00 World Poker Tour 11.45 World Poker Tour 1.30 Ultimate Guinness World Records 2.00 Swap 2.30 Takeshi's Castle 3.00 Family Fortunes 3.30 House Of Games 4.00 House Of Games 4.30 The Krypton Factor 5.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right 5.30-6.00 Teleshopping

HISTORY

8.00 Great Military Blunders 9.00 Dynasties 10.00 Samurai & The Swastika 11.00 The Colour Of War: Anchors Aweigh 12.00 Great Crimes And Trials 12.30 Infamous Murders 1.00 The Great Commanders 2.00 Airship Disasters 3.00 Tech Effect 3.30 Command Decisions 4.00 Julius Streicher 5.00 The Colour Of War: Anchors Aweigh 6.00 Secrets Of War 7.00 The Third Crusade 1189-1192 8.00 Inviting Disaster: Three Mile Island. A look at nuclear disasters 9.00 Dead Men Talking 10.00 Cold Case Files 11.00 The Colour Of War: Anchors Aweigh 12.00 Sink The Manchester 1.00 Sports Gadgets 2.00-6.00 Close

DISCOVERY

6.00 Hunters 7.00 Stealth Secrets 8.00 5th Gear 8.30 Coltrane's Planes And Automobiles 9.00 Super Structures 10.00 Salvage Squad 11.00 Marine Corps Survival School 12.00 The Real Race 1.00 Time Team 2.00 Battlefield 3.00 Unsolved History 4.00 Weapons Of War 5.00 Marine Corps Survival School 6.00 The Real Race 7.00 Time Team 8.00 American Chopper 9.00 Worst Jobs In History 10.00 Al Murray's Road To Berlin 10.30 Rory McGrath's Bloody Britain 11.00 Forensic Detectives 12.00 Trauma: Life In The ER 1.00 Impact 2.00 Al Murray's Road To Berlin 2.30 Virtual History 3.00 Virtual History 5.00-6.00 Time Team

ITV2

9.25 Coronation Street 9.55 Emmerdale 10.25 Sally Jessy Raphael 11.10 Judge Judy 12.30 Coronation Street 1.00 Emmerdale 1.30 Airline 2.00 Trisha 3.05 John Walsh 4.45 Sally Jessy Raphael 5.35 Judge Judy 6.50 Movies Now 7.00 Christian Slater's Orange Playlist 7.30 Planet's Funniest Animals 8.00 Nelly Furtado In Profile 8.30 I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here 9.30 Film: The Object Of My Affection (1998) A pregnant woman persuades her gay flatmate to assume the role of husband and father, only to find herself becoming far too attached to him. Romantic comedy, starring Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston 11.40 Coronation Street 12.10 Frank Skinner 1.00 Baddiel And Skinner 1.30 Jerry Springer 2.15 David Letterman 3.00 Teleshopping 5.00 ITV2 Nightscreen 5.10 David Letterman 6.00 Close

LIVINGTV

6.00 Home Shopping 7.00 Tiny Living 9.00 Baby ER 9.30 Baby Baby 10.00 Pregnancy And Birth: The Truth 10.30 Med Students 11.00 Charmed 12.00 Ricki Lake 12.50 Sixth Sense With Colin Fry 1.20 Crossing Over With John Edward 1.50 Will & Grace 2.50 Everwood 3.45 The Hairdresser 4.15 Charmed 6.05 Will & Grace 7.00 Celebrity Snappers 7.30 Retail Therapy 2 8.00 Will & Grace 9.00 CSI 11.15 Girls Behaving Badly 11.45 Celebrity Extra 12.00 Film: Mary Reilly (1996) Drama 2.05 All Access: Best And Worst Dressed 2.55 Trash To Treasure 3.45 Cold Squad 4.40 Celebrity Extra 4.45 Ricki Lake 5.30-6.00 Home Shopping

pop telly

MTV

Including at 1.30 Newlynweds 2.00 The Ashlee Simpson Show 2.30 Ultrasound: Celebrity School Days 3.00 MTV Mash 3.30 Newlynweds 4.00 Band Aid 20: Justice, Not Charity 5.30 America Or Busted 6.00 TRL 7.00 Screenplay Awards 2004 7.30 Making The Movie Of The Future 8.00 Boiling Points 9.00 Newlynweds 9.30 Eminem's EMA Encore 10.00 Pimp My Ride 10.30 Motormouth 11.00 America Or Busted 11.30 MTV ****s Up 12.00-12.30 Jackass

VH-1

Including at 3.00 Top 10 Christmas Turkeys 3.50 The Nation's Favourite Xmas Song: The Contenders 6.00 Top 20 Christmas Turkeys 7.05 The Making Of Band Aid 7.45 Justice, Not Charity 9.00 The Nation's Favourite Xmas Song: The Results 10.45 Battle Of The Band Aids 11.00 The Making Of Band Aid 11.35 Live Aid Remembered 12.05 The Nation's Favourite Xmas Song: The Results 1.00 Battle Of The Band Aids 1.15-6.00 VH1's Greatest Hits

sporty telly

SKY SPORTS 1

6.00 TRANS WORLD SPORT 53920
7.00 RACE WORLD Motor sport programme 89982
8.00 THE RUGBY CLUB
 All the latest rugby union news and action 80611
9.00 RACING NEWS
 Racing reviews and previews 63272
9.30 ATP TENNIS Round-up of the week 70825
10.00 GOLF: SIR STEVE REDGRAVE 36-HOLE MASTER CHAMPIONSHIP Golf tournament featuring teams of two celebrities and two amateurs, with an order of merit determining who makes it to the final event at the La Manga Club 78678
11.00 THE RUGBY CLUB
 All the latest rugby union news and action 58814
12.00 BIG FIGHT SPECIAL Another chance to see highlights of the recent WBC world heavyweight title fight between Danny Williams and Vitali Klitschko
2.00 THE RUGBY CLUB
 All the latest rugby union news and action 24369
3.00 NBA ACTION
 News and features 4949
3.30 PWA WINDSURFING
 Top-class action from Germany as the PWA Tour reaches round nine 8185
4.00 RACE WORLD
 Motor sport programme, featuring some daring drivers and gruelling races 46456
5.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 9494
5.30 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT A global round-up of alternative sporting action 7456
6.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW
 A quirky look ahead to the weekend's sport 85982
7.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW
 Preview of the forthcoming weekend's action 9630
7.30 LIVE FOOTBALL LEAGUE: NOTTINGHAM FOREST V LEICESTER CITY Coca-Cola Championship action. Kick-off at 7.45pm 834678
10.00 LIVE FRIDAY FIGHT NIGHT: JASON BOOTH V DAMAEN KELLY Action from the IBO super-flyweight title fight at the Huddersfield Sports Centre 59920
12.00 WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT: LATE NIGHT RAW 59316
2.00 FRIDAY FIGHT NIGHT: JASON BOOTH V DAMAEN KELLY
 Highlights 25963
4.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW 63321
5.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 17760
5.30-6.00 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT 11437

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00 AEROBICS: OZ STYLE 2896104 6.30 Freeze Sports 5270123
7.00 AEROBICS: OZ STYLE 7407340 7.30 Freeze Sports 726475
8.00 LIVE TEST CRICKET: SOUTH AFRICA V ENGLAND
 Coverage of the opening day of the first Test from Port Elizabeth 7375369
4.00 TEST CRICKET: AUSTRALIA V PAKISTAN
 Highlights 6182348
7.00 TEST CRICKET: SOUTH AFRICA V ENGLAND
 Coverage of the opening day of the first Test 2864388
10.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW
 A quirky look ahead to the weekend's sport 2028920
11.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW
 Preview of the forthcoming weekend's action 3232920
11.30 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT 5267659
12.00 FOOTBALL LEAGUE: NOTTINGHAM FOREST V LEICESTER CITY 5105483 1.30 Showjumping 1931586
2.30 NFL Weekly Review 6130944 3.30 Moto + 2897876 4.00 Gillette World Sport 2878741
4.30-6.00 Football League: Nottingham Forest v Leicester City 1628692

SKY SPORTS 3

11.00 RACING NEWS 73850659 11.30 Aerobics: OZ Style 73851388
12.00 Trans World Sport 37920007 1.00 Showjumping 96975825
2.00 LIVE POOL: MOSCONI CUP 2004
 Day two of the pool contest from Holland 29503982
5.00 FREEZE SPORTS
 Extreme sports 48100253
5.30 MOTO + 88664678
6.00 SHOWJUMPING
 Coverage of the 2004 Belfast Indoor International Horse Show - Ireland's only five-star event - from the Odyssey Arena 10375681
7.00 LIVE POOL: MOSCONI CUP 2004
 Day two of the Mosconi Cup, a pool contest between six-man teams from the USA and Europe, held at the Hotel Zuiderduin, Holland 88876543
10.00 BRIDGE
 The 12th World Bridge Team Olympiad from Istanbul 26748307
11.00 FREEZE SPORTS
 Extreme winter sports action 73835340
11.30 MOTO + Motoring magazine with all the latest news 54141727
12.00 NFL WEEKLY REVIEW
 With Kevin Cadogan 17790037
1.00 CLOSE

AT THE RACES: Racing news from 9am-1am

EUROSPORT

7.30 BIATHLON 38630
8.30 LIVE BOBSLEIGH WORLD CUP
 Coverage from the World Cup in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, featuring the first run in the women's event 21678
9.30 WATTS 91543
10.00 LIVE BOBSLEIGH WORLD CUP
 Coverage from the World Cup in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, featuring the second run in the women's event 63746
11.00 LIVE FOOTBALL: UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE DRAW
 Coverage of the draw for the quarter-finals 8998765
11.15 LIVE ALPINE SKIING
 World Cup action from Groden, Italy, featuring the Men's Super-G 484524
12.45 LIVE UEFA CUP DRAW
 Further coverage 304369
1.15 LIVE BIATHLON
 Coverage of the World Cup event from Ostersund in Sweden, featuring the men's pursuit 3044659
2.00 FOOTBALL
 Action from a friendly match between Barcelona and Ajax 42765
3.00 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE VINTAGE
 A chance to see a classic encounter 52017
4.00 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE VINTAGE
 A chance to see another classic encounter 31524
5.00 FOOTBALL: TOP 24 CLUBS 4562
5.30 STRONGEST MAN
 Coverage of the event from Turkey 81524
6.30 LIVE EQUESTRIANISM
 Coverage of the Olympia Horse Show 5626340
10.30 YOZ EXTREME 55253
11.00 LG ACTION
 Sports Extreme sports series 655746
12.15 WATTS Sports magazine 5631383
12.30 CLOSE

MUTV

Including at 2.45 Barney And Redford: Re United
3.15 News 3.45 Call Ronaldo 6.00 Countdown
2 Kick-Off 7.30 FA Youth Cup 8.00 News 8.30 Cantona Classics 10.00 News 10.30 Terrace Talk 11.00-12.30 Countdown 2 Kick-Off

EXTREME

Including at 4.15 World Cup Of Skate 5.20 ASA Pro Tour 5.50 Exposure
6.25 Beastie Boys 6.30 Gen//ex 7.00 Terra Firma
6.00 Reunion 9.00 Legends Of The Extreme
10.00 Gravity Games
2003 11.00-12.00 Wee Man's American Misfits



Charlie Catchpole

...on last night's telly

SCHEDULED late at night on a channel once notorious for its naughtiness, **X-RATED: THE SCENES THEY TRIED TO BAN** (Five) might have been an excuse to show loads of boobs, bums and simulated bonking accompanied by a nudge-nudge, wink-wink commentary. No such luck.

This was a sober and thoughtful look at the history of film censorship in Britain.

The talking heads knew their stuff, although they sometimes went a bit far in expressing their outraged sense of injustice.

Michael Winner said that, even in this supposedly permissive age, Britain still had one of the toughest censorship regimes in

the Free World, and the public had no idea that they were barred from seeing what was openly available in other countries.

Massive cuts were made in videos here that were not made anywhere else.

Whipped

In 1983, Winner embarked on a momentous battle with censors when he was ordered to cut a scene from period drama *The Wicked Lady* in which Faye Dunaway horse-whipped a gypsy girl.

"Her blouse gets whipped off and there are a few bloodstains on her bosom," said Winner, a look of wide-eyed innocence on

his face. He then added: "It was basically a comedy film."

I must say the scene didn't look particularly hilarious to me.

Winner won his fight when 60 top film-makers supported him.

Lindsay Anderson, who made *If...* wasn't so lucky. A scene where Malcolm McDowell and a girl rolled naked on the floor was cut. But scenes in which schoolboys machine-gunned visiting parents and McDowell bayoneted the school chaplain, were not.

This was a point that came up again and again. While explicit sex on screen was a no-no, violence usually got the nod.

Which would you say was the more harmful?

titter telly

DISNEY

6.00 The Little Mermaid
6.25 Aladdin 6.50 House Of Mouse 7.15 Lizzie McGuire 7.35 That's So Raven 8.00 That's So Raven 8.25 Dave The Barbarian 8.50 Kim Possible 9.15 Fillmore 9.40 Sabrina 10.05 The Proud Family 10.30 Art Attack 10.50 House Of Mouse 11.15 The Legend Of Tarzan: The Animated Series 11.40 Lilo And Stitch 12.05 Dave The Barbarian 12.30 Recess 12.55 Kim Possible 1.20 Lizzie McGuire 1.45 That's So Raven 2.10 Teen Angel 2.35 The Proud Family 2.55 Art Attack 3.20 Fillmore 3.45 Recess 4.05 Recess 4.30 Kim Possible 5.00 Lizzie McGuire 5.30 That's So Raven 6.00 Like Family 6.30 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 7.00 Film: Recess Christmas: Miracle On Third Street (2001) Principal Prickly gets his car stuck in a snow bank and is stranded with the other teachers, which he unfairly blames on the Recess gang. Animation 8.05 The Making Of Finding Nemo 8.30 Kim Possible 9.00 Lizzie McGuire 9.30 That's So Raven 10.00 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 10.30 Home Improvement 11.30 Boy Meets World 12.00 Close



SOMETHING DIFFERENT: John and Graham, Paramount, 10.30pm

Sun 1.30 Ellen 2.00 Ally McBeal 3.00 Ned And Stacey 3.30 Everybody Loves Raymond 4.00 Soap 4.30 Minder 5.30 Becker 6.00 Frasier 6.30 Roseanne 7.00 M*A*S*H 8.00 Seinfeld 8.30 Becker 9.00 That '70s Show 9.30 Frasier 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Film: And Now For Something Completely Different (1972) Compilation of Monty Python sketches, starring John Cleese and Graham Chapman 12.10 Kate And Allie 12.40 Ellen 1.10 Married With Children 1.40 That '70s Show 2.10 Taxi 2.35 I Work Here 2.50 I Work Here 3.00 Linc's 3.30 Shock Jock 4.00 Close

NICKELODEON

6.00 Arthur 6.30 Rugrats 7.00 SpongeBob 7.30 Nickelmast Advent Calendar 8.00 Drake And Josh 8.30 Mr Bean 9.00 As Told By Ginger 9.30 Arthur 10.30 CatDog 11.30 Rugrats 12.30 Mr Bean 1.00 Mr Bean 1.30 Arthur 2.00 Rugrats 3.00 As Told By Ginger 3.30 SpongeBob SquarePants

PARAMOUNT

9.00 Kate And Allie 9.30 Cheers 10.00 Married With Children 10.30 3rd Rock From The Sun 11.00 Ned And Stacey 11.30 Dharma And Greg 12.00 M*A*S*H 1.00 3rd Rock From The

radio

Radio 1 (FM: 97.6-99.8MHz) 7.00 Chris Moyles Show. 10.00 Jo Whiley. 12.45 Newsbeat. 1.00 Colin And Edith. 4.00 Scott Stills. 6.00 Pete Tong. 9.00 Westwood. 11.00 Reggae Dancehall. 1.00 Fabio And Grooverider. 3.00 1Xtra Presents.
Radio 2 (FM: 88-90.2MHz) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up To Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jeremy Vine. 2.00 Steve Wright. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 The Sam Cooke Story. 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night. 9.15 The Woman In White. 9.30 Listen To The Band. 10.00 Mariella Frostrup. 12.00 Bob Harris. 3.00 Janey Lee Grace.

Radio 4 (FM: 92.4-94.6MHz; LW: 198 KHz) 5.35 News. Shipping Forecast. 5.43 Prayer For The Day. 5.45 Farming Today. 6.00 Today. 6.05 News. The Archers. 7.15 Island Discs. 9.45 Book Of The Week: The Explorer's Daughter. (LW) 9.45 Act Of Worship. 10.00 News. Woman's Hour. (LW) 10.00 Rejoins FM. 11.00 News. Dream On. 11.30 Clare In The Community. 12.00 News: You And Yours. (LW) 12.00 News. Shipping Forecast. (LW) 12.04 Rejoins FM. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World At One. 1.30 A World In Your Ear. 2.00 News. The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: The Stranger At The Palazzo. D'Oro. 3.00 News. Veg Tag: 0870 010 0444. 3.30 Thou Shalt Not Suffer A Witch. 3.45 Silverscreen Crackers. 4.00 News. Word Of Mouth. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM. (LW) 5.54 Shipping Forecast. (LW) 5.57 Weather. 6.00 News. (LW) 6.00 Rejoins FM. 6.30 The Now Show. 7.00 News. The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Three Wise Men And A Baby In A Pear Tree. 8.00 News. Any Questions? 8.50 A View From... 9.00 News. The Friday Play: 2000 Miles. 9.59 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book At Bedtime: Frankenstein. 11.00 News. The Copysnatchers. 11.30 Today In Parliament. 12.00 News. Weather. 12.30 Book Of The Week: The Explorer's Daughter. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 BBC World Service.

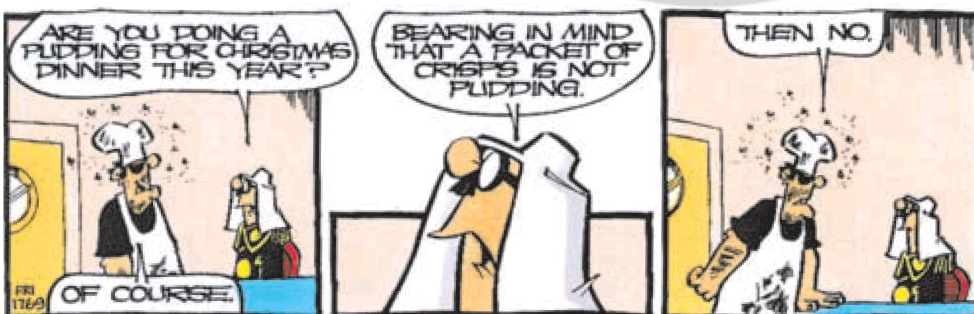
TROUBLE

7.00 Moesha 7.25 Celebrity 7.30 70s Show 8.00 Two Guys 8.25 Clean 8.30 Wayans Bros 9.00 Date My Sister 9.30 70s Taxi 9.55 Jesse 10.20 Embarrassing Parents 10.50 Malibu 11.20 Wayans Bros 11.50 Bodies 12.20 Fresh Prince 12.50 Clueless 1.15 Clean 1.20 70s Show 1.50 Malibu 2.20 Embarrassing Parents 2.50 Date My Sister 3.20 Bodies 3.50 Celebrity 3.55 Clean 4.00 Fresh Prince 4.30 Run 5.00 One 5.30 Parkers 6.00 Grounded 6.30 Clueless 6.55 Clean 7.00 Moesha 7.30 Date My Sister 8.00 Malibu 8.30 Spider-Man 9.00 Under Grads 9.30 Celebrity 9.35 Parkers 10.05 One 10.35 Run 11.05 Paradise 12.00 Grounded 12.30 Jesse 12.55 Celebrity 1.00 Close

TCM

5.20 The Honeymoon Machine (1961) Comedy, starring Steve McQueen
7.00 Brass Target (1978) Thriller, starring Sophia Loren
9.00 Batman (1989) Adventure, starring Jack Nicholson
11.25 Children Of The Damned (1964) Science fiction, starring Ian Hendry
1.00-2.45 Hot Millions (1968) Comedy, starring Peter Ustinov

BEAU PEEP
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 By Kettle & Christine



How to survive the



FOOD MONSTER:
Don't hog the buffet all night

by EMILY VOLKERT
LOVE it or loathe it, there's no chance of escaping the good old Christmas party.

Whether it's the office bash, a family knees-up or out on the lash with the lads, parties provide plenty of opportunities for a night to remember – though not always for the right reasons.

According to a new survey from car giants Honda, Christmas parties take top spot when it comes to causing major embarrassment. Some 65 per cent of their car owners admit to having had a red-faced moment at a Yuletide do – or enjoying someone else making a total twit of themselves.

They reckon snogging a workmate is the worst party offence, hotly followed by Dad Dancing and bad-mouthing the boss.

But even if you aren't on the booze, you can still have a great time. Honda estimates a third of us will be stone-cold sober for at least one Christmas bash, but there are still plenty of wicked things you can do to make a party go with a bang...



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PULLING A CRACKER:
Focus your mind on alcohol then sexual satisfaction – in that order

Pull a Christmas Cracker

IF you don't care about red faces and you're determined to go for it, then it's easy – when you know how...

- 1** **ALCOHOL** and lots of it! Remain focused on instant sexual satisfaction – with no thought for future repercussions. Only alcohol can help you!
- 2** **TEST** the water – in the days leading up to the party, find suitable "snogging" nooks and crannies around the office.
- 3** **DRESS** to impress – wear fancy dress, even if it's not required –

it's a sure fire way of getting yourself noticed and most importantly – it may provide some sort of disguise if things turn ugly.

- 4** **GO** for the unexpected. Statistically, it's unlikely combinations that succeed. Don't go for someone you actually fancy. Instead, make a beeline for people that you barely know and don't let looks or personality get in the way.
- 5** **AVOID** the "moonwalk" at all costs – ditto, random hip

lunges in an attempt to bump and grind – looking like a loon or a deranged sex-pest will get you nowhere.

- 6** **JUST** say yes. If someone propositions you, seize the day.
- 7** **KEEP** your options open. Being persistent with more than one person will up your chances.
- 8** **FINALLY**, drink a bit more. For some reason our pulling tips don't work, you can block it all out with temporary memory loss. Usually works for us!

XMAS BASH



PARTY POLITICS:
When the drink
kicks in DON'T
ask for a pay
rise, cry or
snivel

Booze-free fun

SO, you've been left with the car keys. No problem – there are plenty of ways to spice things up.

Honda asked their drivers to come up with their party nightmares, and there are plenty you can take on board and make your own...

- 1 **The Sneaky Snapper** – be in the right place at the right time, camera in hand, and you'll have all-year-round blackmail material.
- 2 **The Matchmaker** – if your sober eye detects a potential love match then don your cupid wings and sharpen those arrows. Encourage your colleagues, friends and aunts to make the first move, with lines like: "You'll only regret it tomorrow!" then hey presto – hours of entertainment!

- 3 **The Games Master** – anyone for Spin the Bottle? Getting this game going with a few gentle suggestions of more risqué challenges will ensure lots of gossip in the morning.

- 4 **The Ex-Texter** – suggestions that pals send saucy texts, to their exes or wannabe lovers, is always good.

- 6 **The Comedy Critic** – everyone can do a brilliant impression of the boss, mad uncle Frankie or even that big scary bloke at the bar. Make sure the figure of fun is in earshot, of course.

- 7 **The Dance Instructor** – if you're a bit of a dance floor diva, ply bosses with plenty of pop to get them in the mood. Demand a disco classic from the DJ and they will soon be doing a David Brent.

Party Animals' Drinking Guide

GO to bed an hour earlier before your big night so you'll wake up on the big day feeling fresh.

Cut out carbs to give you a nice, flat tummy... and drink lots of water.

Make sure your outfit is planned so you're not stressed on the night.

Organise how you are going to get home beforehand – it'll stop you ending up in the wrong bed or stumbling around searching for a taxi.

Party Etiquette

IF you DO care about embarrassment, then try the more sober and sombre approach...

- 1 **DON'T** be a cheat – one in six party revellers are panting for it, but before you leave the house, have a chat with yourself – the grass isn't always greener.
- 2 **DRESS SUBTLY** to impress. Women, do NOT copy Lily Savage's fashion tips or be too revealing. Men, leave that white shirt at home, it will inevitably

attract an inexplicable number of spillages.

- 3 **DON'T** be the food monster. Move away from the buffet or risk spinach in your teeth and terrible breath.

- 4 **BOOZE** always leads to a certain openness. DON'T ask for a pay rise, cry or snivel about how wonderful your boss is... you'll just look VERY sad.

- 5 **MATCH** every drink with a glass of water – then you'll still be standing by the end.

Recovery tips

- 1 **DRINK** green tea – it repairs alcohol damage... and bags of water so you rehydrate.

- 2 **AVOID** coffee or any drinks which contain caffeine.

- EXERCISE – honest, it works.

- 4 **FORGET** hair-of-the-dog... it doesn't work and remember – even if you were the biggest party embarrassment, it will only be a few weeks before everyone forgets – and it will be someone else's turn next year!

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joke bloke

Text DSJoke (space) name and joke to 61616

PATIENT: "Doctor! Doctor! I think I'm a knitting needle!"
DOCTOR: "Hmm. The last patient I had thought she was a ball of wool... I'm sensing a pattern here."

S. SMITH,
Leicester.

WHY would 99 per cent of men like to be a table? Because they'd get laid three times a day!

CHRIS FRYER,
Stoke-on-Trent
WHY did Santa Claus have to go to the doctor? Because he'd caught a bad case of tinitis.

E. McVIE,
Perth
MAN: "Can you tell me what the penalty is for bigamy?"
SOLICITOR: "Easy. You get two mothers-in-law!"

P. ACKLAM,
Hull

• WE pay £5 for each joke printed. Write to: Joke Bloke, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN

WHY did the woman put her husband under the bed at night? Because he was a little potty.

ERNEST FITZGERALD,
Stoke-on-Trent

WHAT did Santa say when asked if he liked climbing down chimneys? "Soots me!"
D.W. SHATTOCK,
Bristol

WHY don't reindeer like penguins? They can't get the wrappers off.

M. MORTON,
Slough, Berks.

Listen and laugh as your mate is wound up on 0905 235 8158
Calls cost £1 per minute.

£10 LETTER

I AM amazed Macer Hall says Blunkett was popular with the voters (Daily Star, December 16).

Not round here, he wasn't. What has he achieved in tackling the problems of immigration and violent crime?

Charles Clarke looks a bit of a bruiser - perhaps he'll get to grips with what we are really worried about.

H. MORGAN, Failsforth, Manchester. (by e-mail).
WAYNE Rooney must be if he gives Coleen £50,000 to blow on Christmas presents.

No wonder she didn't pack him in over his wanderings.

E. BREEZE,
Telford, Shropshire.
PRINCE Harry should stick to the bottle and forget females, especially one with Mugabe connections.

Once he gets into the Army - if he ever does - birds will be out of bounds and he might

LETTERS
EMAILS

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behave as a young Royal rather than a randy boy.

DAVID SMEETON,
Lytham, Lancs.
GIRLS may be drinking lads under the table in Bristol (Daily Star, December 15) but they'd soon find what's what if they came here. We're in a different glass.

JASON WATTS, Halifax.
HAS-BEEN Geri Halliwell has a nerve, warning fans to stay away from her (The Goss, December 15). I am surprised to find there's anyone who still cares.

SHIRLEY LONSDALE,
Newport, Gwent.

TEXT MANIACS TEXT DSTAR TO 61616



Text DSTAR followed by a space, then your name and comment, and send to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your normal mobile operator cost.

page 3 babes centerfolds very nice but how bout sumthing different 4 us all - like a page 10 tranny. cum on star x. lu

Is there any chance that Michelle Marsh would consider stepping in 2 a ring 4 a wrestling match against a fellow star babe say Jordan 4 example? Chris

leave charlotte church alone. She's a normal teenage girl living her life. Hands up anyone who hasn't fell on their arse on a night out. mike fox
does anyone remember the cartoon/sweets gummy bears? they were class. ronnie

Give me 30 mins alone with evil kenneth crowston. He will be begging to die. mog

to han - i would't treat u like scum babe. Not all lads r bad. I've found that girls r more like lads today n don't want anything long term. chris

I c yet another talentless Osbourne, Jack, has had a go at Simon Cowell. Who the f*ck cares what this family of drug addicts & gobby women think? Jay

The Army, like the Police, is full of morons. Yet it seems both can get away with murder. Deepcut being just one example. When r we going 2 do something 2 get justice 4 the kids that died & ones still being abused? Jak

stop the trade in immigrant turkeys with bogus visas. join my campaign now! FARMERS 4 JUSTICE

ladies - apart from money n a voice y do u like B. McFadden? He's a greasy drowned rat. Ben

Blunkett stop moaning uv bin caught out doing favours. BARNSELYBASHER



I totally agree with phil - I want Leilani back in the Star. She is stunning - a true Page 3 babe. Where's she gone? andy, brum

Nice to see Blunkett has done the right thing shame he will more than likely be given a massive payout plus a massive pension. nice 1 Blunko SH#T ON US AGAIN! Roffey

matt u stupid nob - u probably drive a skip that's lucky 2 even b fitted with headlights!!! davy
ed if your uncle hadn't smoked perhaps he might have made it to 100. 92? No age should have give up the ciggies. kezz

Edinbob yeah Gerry did good work helping 2 blow folk up but if he wants 2 make amends he can have my polaroid with film inc. Violet

rooney your bird is fat and rough so you're a match made in heaven. please show us a sexy pic of jo brand in her undies. what a babe! weasel

i think steve from x factor is crap and will end up like michelle from pop idol. Tabby was da best. Frankie

I remember when british comedy used 2 b funny. How can ppl laugh at that harry hill & little britain sh#t? Ste, hants.

Are all men only interested in a relationship? What happened to a good, old-fashioned roll in the hay? NYMPH

Come on girls! Send in sexy pics in santa suits 2 ur fav paper! Us lads 2 judge da best! Dug, York

Why do so many drivers use REAR fog lights on their cars in a bit of MIST and then forget about them. Turn them off u kn*bs. NP

britain is working DONT LET THE TORIES WRECK IT AGAIN. DAVE

To M. So you're only mature when you have kids. if that's the case i won't bother. Half of the parents are kids themselves. open your eyes! OZ.

2 WAYNE - HAMBURGERS GOT THEIR NAME COZ THEY ORIGINATED IN HAMBURG NOT COZ OF THEIR CONTENT, U FOOL RG

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Justin Toper

The STAR-gazer who knows your future

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You're sure to have a change of heart. Financially, this has to be a better year. There does, however, seem to be someone you place more highly. CELEBRATING TODAY: Actress and singer Milla Jovovich, 29

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

LIKE most Aries, you'll feel that nothing seems that real at the moment. But, no doubt what happens now will provide some solace, even though you will have to react fast. More so, as what is on offer could save you money as well. To see why you will receive a big thank you, call...

To receive daily texts send DSARI to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (01) ***

Taurus (Apr 21 - May 21)

IT seems that all your good intentions have gone out the window. Of course, this is partly because others have not fulfilled your wishes. However, this is the first time someone's been willing to make a commitment. To see why you can expect some goodwill, call...

To receive daily texts send DSTAU to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (02) ***

Gemini (May 22 - June 22)

IT'S amazing how others can suddenly change. And who knows what they might agree to. Maybe you should ask for more money - though that isn't really the issue. Instead, you should make a serious point. To see why some people will begin to think much more clearly, call...

To receive daily texts send DSGEM to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (03) ***

Cancer (June 23 - July 23)

NO doubt you've put up with a lot lately - and it's surprising that you are still standing! But again, you should find going a lot easier now, and can also expect others to free you from certain responsibilities. To see why life will improve by leaps and bounds, call...

To receive daily texts send DSCAN to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (04) ***

Leo (July 24 - Aug 23)

OTHERS are loving one minute and angry the next. There may have even been an incident recently. But don't dwell on it. The likelihood is others will now give freely. Also, the season of goodwill has come early and an emotional bond is sure to survive. To see why you should become a hit, call...

To receive daily texts send DSLEO to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (05) ***

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

YOU know what makes you happy, and what you need. Unfortunately, what is happening now is not it! And yet, you should certainly feel a lot happier about a new domestic arrangement, and about life in general. To see who or what you could pick up, call...

To receive daily texts send DSVIR to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (06) ***

Libra (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

ONCE again you may have to check and even double-check any arrangements. This is particularly true, as others could make more work for you or end up doing something else entirely. Even so, there is still a lot to be thankful for. To see why you can easily get by on your own, call...

To receive daily texts send DSLIB to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (07) ***

Scorpio (Oct 24 - Nov 22)

DON'T worry if you have to lay out extra money or you come across other snags. Despite that, you can expect a measure of success now - even though undoubtedly you have overstepped the mark at work recently. To see why a great time is promised, call...

To receive daily texts send DSSCO to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (08) ***

Sagittarius (Nov 23 - Dec 21)

YOU may have love in your eyes, and others may be mesmerised. Nearer to the point, you realise that may be the only way they will fit in with your wishes. Also, you may be amazed - especially when someone throws a little cash your way. To see why you may have quite an impact, call...

To receive daily texts send DSSAG to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (09) ***

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 20)

YOU may not have hit the heights this week, but you've not been rejected. Someone makes the ideal companion - and who knows where you might end up. Meanwhile, you should stand by a decision at work. To find out why you mustn't let a chance slip away, call...

To receive daily texts send DSCAP to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (10) ***

Aquarius (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

EVEN though you made the first move, you still don't know what someone really thinks of you. However, a face-to-face meeting could well be fun - and lead to a relationship after Christmas - if you can wait that long! To see why you never know who you may end up with, call...

To receive daily texts send DSAQU to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (11) ***

Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

THOSE around you are inclined to blow hot and cold, and you should leave well alone. Chances are, however, that you will be ready to spring into action. Meanwhile, you will probably be invited from afar to assert yourself. For a glimpse of the larger picture, call...

To receive daily texts send DSPIS to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (12) ***

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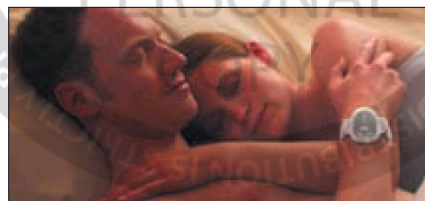
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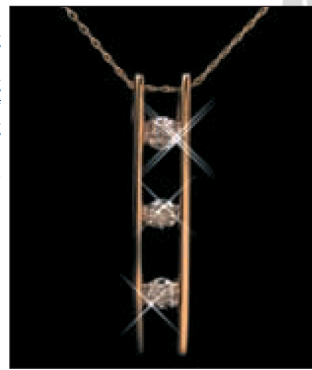


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£30,000	243.43	297.04	373.43	476.48	616.63	8.9% APR
£27,500	223.14	272.29	342.32	436.78	565.42	variable
£25,000	202.86	247.53	311.20	397.07	514.02	variable
£20,000	174.96	208.04	258.97	327.04	420.19	9.9% APR
£17,500	153.09	182.91	226.60	286.16	367.67	variable
£15,000	131.22	156.78	194.23	245.28	315.15	variable
£10,000	93.90	110.09	134.53	168.23	214.58	10.9% APR
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HEADBANGERS

Alpha Puzzle™

21	16	7	14	9	18	8	23		20	
	12			14			14	26	26	18
13	8	20	18	23	8		11		22	18
	11			4		11	16	22	10	14
3	16	14	21	16		14			2	15
16				23	8	1	16		12	17
14		8	14	9		9		13	18	16
6	21			25	17	22	5			9
23	16					22		23	17	13
16	14	22	12	8	24	16		14		10
1		14			16		14	20	14	19
1	9	22	16	1	1			18		17
		20			9	22	18	2	5	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

N B

Alphapuzzle™ tests your logic and word power. Each grid number represents a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start. Solution tomorrow.

DIFFICULTY: 7/10; **TARGET:** 25 minutes; **CLUE:** Seed the best cuisine, we hear.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: ACROSS: Neuron, Robust, Tableau, Leash, Mine, Flush, Joust (clue), Howl, Awash, Upstart, Handle, Zenith. DOWN: Anatomy, Bathe, Husband, Faint, Hovel, Foxhole, Burlesque, Goulash, Askew, Mural, Cohabit, Itchy, Blotchy.

EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0905 072 3264 (Hear up to six extra letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard)

● Alternatively text DSALPHA to 83426 and we will text the six extra letter clues direct to your mobile. iTexts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate.

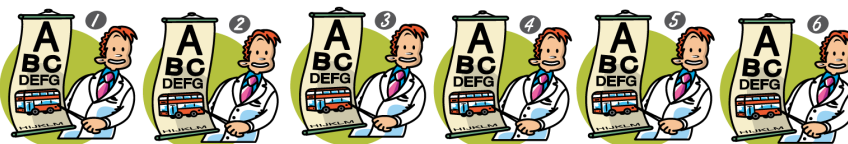
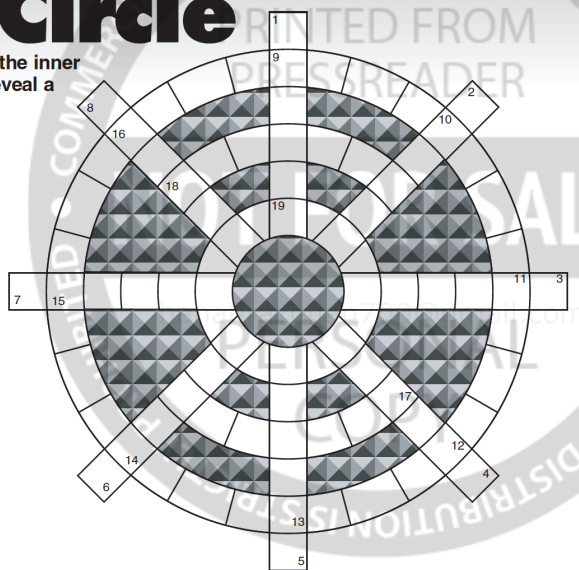
FULL SOLUTION: 0905 072 3265

● Calls cost 75p per minute from BT landlines

Inner Circle

Fill in the missing letters of the inner circle, starting from (19), to reveal a Glen Campbell hit (10,6).

- Shake with cold
- Miniature tree art
- One of a kind
- Desire for drink
- Cause
- Material
- Pasture, lea
- Hitchcock film
- Word of greeting
- Church keyboard instrument
- Whinny
- Type of dwelling
- Surplus
- Granny Smith, for example
- The King
- One of the Seven Deadly Sins
- Cockerel
- Solicit votes



Test Drive

Which two pictures form a matching pair?

BOXWISE

Can you put these 12 three-letter syllables into the 12 numbered boxes to produce 12 six-letter words, each of which starts in one box and finishes in the box indicated by an arrow? For instance, 2 and 5 make a six-letter word, but not 5 and 9. One group of three letters has been filled in to start you off.



ARD GLE RET
ENT NER TAN
ERS PER USE
GAR REF VES

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

CODE CRACKER

IRONING RITZY
 N C ANTELU E
 JUT SPASIX O
 E AXE SKI ELM
 CAN V HEN DA
 T EWER T SOON
 B ETVY M
 Q EVEN MOOSE
 U R LUG P S
 DETISM BASH T
 A H E V A EON
 T EASTER N
 SHOD S LOTH M
 U U RAY WORE
 BIT EYE DINE
 T B B L A N ECK
 L E L U S E S E
 YODEL TWISTER

DLHRMNVNPFWEIXT
 SJKGUOBYTIAOZC

NAME THAT JUNE

The missing name is: LILY.

TODAY'S ANSWERS IN TOMORROW'S



Two-way Teaser

Call 0905 072 3267 for today's solution
 Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT land line

Two sets of clues, but the answers are the same
 ANSWERS TOMORROW

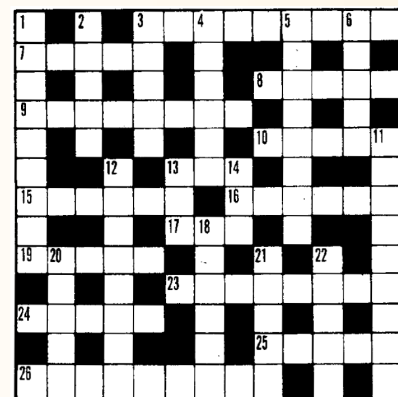
- CRYPTIC CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- It'll sail across the dinner table! (5-4)
 - You're not right to be in this (5)
 - A large number will want to climb (5)
 - Any fruit in this bun must be stoned? (4-4)
 - Wearing medal, I'll be leaving (5)
 - Fashionable northern pub (3)
 - Bloody boat? (6)
 - You appear to do this if you've been hiding (6)
 - Sports gear you have to piece together? (3)
 - Outside Los Angeles king has to take it easy (5)
 - What have nun and I done wrong by implication? (8)
 - Saint remains to hide something away (5)
 - A man like Kinnock returns a foreigner (5)

- DOWN**
- This dog will make a good recovery (9)
 - Joke that causes a rift! (5)
 - Girl who sometimes starts a meal? (5)
 - Stop sleeping for a funeral party to the north (6)
 - Knock down one who likes archery? (4,4)
 - Professional dressed in an unflattering garment! (5)
 - Hare-brained runner? (9)
 - At home chasing donkey after donkey is a killer (8)
 - Kind that's wrapped in silks (3)

- Sort of weight a fisherman carries (3)
 - Take no notice if one rig breaks loose (6)
 - Write something in to admit something (5)
 - Busy sound, to an ordinary person (5)
 - Does it suffer shell-shock losing its home? (5)
- QUICK CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Sauce container on table (5,4)
 - Mistake (5)
 - Large group of flying insects (5)
 - Bun with fruit and spice (4,4)
 - Departing (5)
 - Tavern (3)

- Any ship (6)
 - To come to the surface (6)
 - Construction set (3)
 - Rest to relieve tension (5)
 - Insinuation (8)
 - To hoard (5)
 - Foreigner (5)
 - Policeman's cosh (9)
- DOWN**
- Gun dog (9)
 - To fracture (5)
 - Miss Jones singer and film star (5)
 - Rouse from sleep (6)
 - Knock for six (4,4)
 - Cook's protective garment (5)
 - Racing dog (9)
 - Hired killer (8)
 - A type, sort (3)
 - Thin curtain fabric (3)
 - Deliberately disregard (6)
 - Go in (5)
 - A person (5)
 - Garden pest (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: ACROSS – 1 Culprit 5 Cower 8 Oaf 9 Diana Ross 10 Dogma 11 Marshal 13 Shandy 14 Accuse 17 Address 19 Ocean 21 Legislate 23 Own 24 Witty 25 Empathy DOWN 1 Crowd 2 Life-guard 3 Red card 4 Trauma 5 Chair 6 Woo 7 Resolve 12 Houseboat 13 Shallow 15 Close-up 16 Escape 18 Essay 20 Nanny 22 Get



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It's the business

God doesn't require us to succeed; he only requires that you try - Mother Teresa

Movers & groovers

SANCTUARY Group, the music company behind acts from Iron Maiden to Beyoncé, announced a management shakeup yesterday.

In a series of changes head of its US business Merck Mercuriadis will become chief executive based in New York and in charge of creative strategy.

Co-founder and executive chairman Andy Taylor described Mercuriadis as "one of the outstanding artist managers and record men of his generation".

Sanctuary began life as a British heavy metal record label but now makes half its money in the US.

It manages acts like The Who while its music catalogue takes in The Strokes and Morrissey.

KELVIN MacKenzie, boss of **Wireless Group**, owner of radio stations including talkSPORT yesterday pledged to fight on after a setback in his legal battle over audience measurement.

The High Court struck out the company's action against RAJAR audience research over delays in replacement of the existing diary-based system.

"RAJAR may have won a legal skirmish but the war goes on until technology-based audience measurement is adopted," said MacKenzie.

He said talkSPORT has six million listeners but under the RAJAR system advertisers paid only for 2m.

BANKING group HBOS announced yesterday it was giving free shares worth 5% of basic salary next year to its 60,000 employees at **Bank of Scotland, Birmingham**.

CABLE TV firm Telewest has begun a review of £5m in commission payments made by people in its IDS division selling at ad time on its TV channels to commercial partners in the three years since 2001.

THE DEALER

The average Briton is not sure how much cash they have in the bank and 12% have no idea at all, said a poll by NatWest Primeline.

HOT GOSSIP

DEALERS expect a healthy debut on the junior Aim market today for **Ascribe**, which provides medical records electronically for GPs. Chris Moore, former boss of healthcare IT firm **Torex**, has subscribed for a 13% stake in the company, which is being brought to market at 18p.

TP buys into DIY

by TONY LEONARD

BUILDERS' merchant Travis Perkins yesterday grabbed itself a foothold in the DIY market with the £950 million takeover of the Wickes chain.

Bill Archer, who founded **Focus DIY** in 1987 and bought Wickes four years ago, is in line for a multi-million pound windfall from the deal.

He has a 12% stake in the business - equal to £70 million - allowing for debt repayment, thought to be about £300 million.

Archer, ranked in the top 200 richest people in Britain, paid £325 million for Wickes with backing from buyout firms **Duke Street Capital** and **Apax**, which hold 57% and nearly 30% respectively.

Deal

Two thirds of customers at Wickes's 172 stores are tradesmen or "serious DIY-ers".

The takeover will give Travis Perkins a 19% share of the builders' merchants market and nearly 10% of the DIY market, putting it in second place behind **B&Q**.

Wickes employs 6,300 staff and Travis 10,000.

Travis Perkins chief, Frank McKay, said the two brands would be kept separate and the deal would generate £35 million of annual savings.

He added: "We've been looking at

Avis caught in car hire web

A GROWING number of drivers are steering their way through the internet to book a hire car - and that meant bad news yesterday for rental giant **Avis Europe**.

Shares in the company plunged 20% at one point after it warned of a gloomy outlook for 2005 and said it

was scrapping its end-of-year dividend payment.

The group is suffering from the same kind of competition that hit full-cost airlines when budget operators such as easyJet began offering tickets over the web.

More motorists than ever now arrange their car

rentals on the net, through outfits such as lastminute.com and the no-frills airlines.

After a modest recovery Avis shares closed 4.75p down at an all-time low 50.25p, wiping £28 million off the stock market value, now down to £294 million.

WHO'S DEALING

BUILDERS merchant **James Latham** was underpinned 17.5p to 607.5p yesterday after chairman Roger Latham increased his stake. Latham forked out £59,500 for 10,000 shares at 59.5p to take his holding to 2.4%. Director Peter Latham holds 7% after picking up 8,000 shares.

BUILDERS SNAP UP WICKES

Wickes for several years, but we were not interested in Focus, which is at the lighter end of the market. "The attraction of Wickes is that it is close to being a builders' merchant."

Archer is now expected to seek a stock market flotation for Focus and its 256 stores, which sell lighting and garden furniture.

Focus has grown as a business through the takeover of other chains, including **Do It All** and **Great Mills**.

Archer said: "DIY continues to be a high growth and resilient market."

"Our Focus business is performing well and we have a strategic opportunity to build further value by actively investing in new stores and refits."

A number of private equity firms were in the running to buy Wickes, but were unable to match Travis Perkins' offer.

Travis is raising £75 million through a share placing to help finance the acquisition.

Its shares jumped 142p to an all-time high of £17.22, valuing the group at £1.9 billion.



Steel plant looks safe

CORUS Group, the former **British Steel**, yesterday safeguarded 1,700 UK jobs by signing a 10-year supply deal for its Teesside plant.

The works was labelled surplus to requirements by Corus in April 2003 when it announced restructuring plans.

Unlike its core British plants at Port Talbot, Rotherham and Scunthorpe which produce fully-processed steel, Teesside makes slab steel - a semi-finished product straight from the furnace.

Corus new boss Philippe Varin said at the time he wanted to stop selling slab steel to third parties and needed only a small part of Teesside's output to process at other plants.

If a deal had not been done, the plant would probably have closed.

However, prices for slab steel have picked up dramatically since then as China's runaway industrial growth has driven up global demand.

Pedeltys quids in

THE boss of the Co-op banking service is retiring to spend more time with his charities.

Mervyn Pedeltys, 55, who earned nearly £1 million in salary and bonuses last year, has been with the Co-op for seven years. He will enjoy a pension of at least £110,000 a year.

Chief financial officer Paul Hewitt will take over as acting chief executive.

Pedeltys is a member of the Employers' Task Force which highlighted the crisis facing company pension funds and urged companies to increase their contributions to staff schemes earlier this week.

FTSE100 SHARE INDEX ▲ Up 7.00 points (+0.15%) at 4735.20

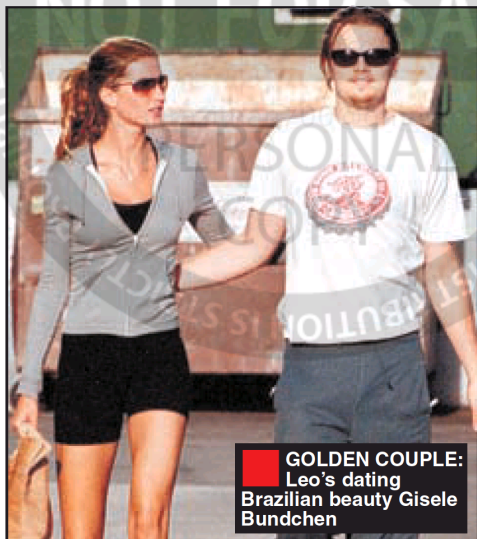
Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	High	Low				
3i Grp.	651.00	+1.00	686	528	1470	Carnival	3059	+73	3062	2170	2568	Kingfisher	303	+3	317	270	5908	SAB	828.00	+6	884	537	4718
A.B. Food	738.00	+1.00	749	562	1082	Centrica	228	-2	230	220	1818	Land Secs.	1348.00	+1	1354	984	1035	Sage Grp.	196	+1	207	155	6601
Aldi	509	+1	523	405	1000	Compass Group	239	+1	241	213	763	Legal&Gen.	110	+1	112	97	1036	Sainsbury(J)	267.00	+1	359	242	1050
Alliance & Leitch	901	+1	915	795	2233	Conus Grp.	51	-1	56	29	4530	Lib-Int	907	-3	913	650	7649	Schroders	742	+8	743	535	1415
Alliance Unicom	748	+3	757	488	6022	Daily Mail	713.00	-7	760	622	3973	Lloyds Tsb Grp.	456	+1	476	391	6395	Schroders Nv	669	+1	673	496	2917
AMF/ESCAP	309	-	480	261	1124	Diageo	736	+2	780	657	1029	Marks & Sp.	343.00	+4	368	264	1039	Scot.&Newcastle	434	-4	444	361	1421
Anglo	1175	+1	1420	1072	4949	Dixons Grp.	149	-2	176	132	1020	Mm2	120	-	121	75	2100	Scot.&Sth.Engy.	839	+1	844	637	6027
Antofagasta	1053	+1	1258	836	3438	Emap	810.00	-5	855	698	1196	Morrison (Wm)	211	-3	256	171	1253	Severn Trent	944.00	-2	960	700	4015
Astrazenca	2056	+24	2749	2026	1585	Ent.Lnns	737	+9	741	499	4713	National Grid	476.00	-	486	385	4443	Shell	429	-4	448	348	2355
Aviva	619	-2	624	471	3388	Excel	717	-8	789	682	1366	Ned	1645	+40	1705	1079	1254	Shire Pharmcel.	533	+7	571	436	5200
BAA	577.00	-3	585	465	7389	Friends Prov.	155	-	160	123	7733	Old Mutual	132	-	135	90	2782	Smith&Nephew	538	+9	614	439	1434
BAE Sys.	234	-3	257	159	1010	GlaxoSmithKline	1196.00	+30	1299	1042	1024	Pearson	610	+4	681	579	1374	Smiths Group	787	+10	792	619	1437
Barclays	577	+6	577	443	1004	GUS	930	+42	957	713	1237	Prudential	453	+1	453	336	7481	Stand.Chart.	952	-7	1035	833	4887
BIG Grp.	345	-5	380	273	7274	HSBC Hldgs.	863.00	-4	935	784	5582	Reed Elsevier	470	+1	542	445	1396	Tesco	314	+2	315	237	1056
BHP Bill	579	+7	621	432	2423	Gallagher Grp.	757	-4	766	584	2222	Rentokil Intl.	140	+2	269	166	6441	Tomkins	250	-2	287	241	1462
BOC Grp.	943	-2	949	841	1008	GlaxoSmithKline	1196.00	+30	1299	1042	1024	Reuters Grp.	369	+4	429	228	1047	Unilever	464	-4	576	443	5983
Boots Group	650.00	+16	752	596	1009	GUS	930	+42	957	713	1237	Reckitt Benckiser	1544	-15	1606	1238	1046	Smiths Group	787	+10	792	619	1437
BP	502	-7	558	471	1011	HBOS	840	+10	840	663	3333	Rolls Royce	252.00	+2	269	166	6441	Stand.Chart.	952	-7	1035	833	4887
Br.Amco	227	-	335	195	6258	Imp. Tobacco Grp.	1378	-25	1412	1063	1271	Royal Bank Scot.	1709	+2	1764	1464	3219	Unilever	464	-4	576	443	5983
Br.Amco Tob.	890	+2	894	746	1003	Interson. Hotel	650.00	-7	757	537	3729	Royal Bank Scot.	1709	+2	1764	1464	3219	Vodafone Grp.	1329	-	149	114	3577
Br.Land	866	+10	870	569	1128	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482	Whitbread	842.00	+2	853	701	1498
BSkyB	556	-7	576	465	3382	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482	William Hill	546	+4	559	407	4848
Bund	204	-	208	169	1012	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482	Wolsey	951	+6	971	741	3288
Bund	435.00	-2	485	305	1137	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482	WPP Grp.	561	+1	643	469	3283
Cable & Wire	116	+1	153	96	1015	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482	Xstrata	899	+15	950	575	3241
Cadbury-Sch.	474	+9	478	386	1016	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482	Yell Grp.	429.00	-4	442	299	1026
Cairn Energy	1362	-69	1570	365	3643	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482						
Capita Group	356	+3	370	224	5263	Johnson, Matth.	1062.00	+11	1032	841	1280	Royal&Sun All.	76	+1	109	68	7482						

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FILM ROLE AS BILLIONAIRE PLAYBOY HAS DICAPRIO

Leo's walk on the



GOLDEN COUPLE:
Leo's dating
Brazilian beauty Gisele
Bündchen

by VICTORIA LISSAMAN

BROODING Hollywood sex god Leonardo DiCaprio is used to being surrounded by the world's most beautiful women.

So playing infamous playboy Howard Hughes, who dated screen legends Katharine Hepburn and Ava Gardner, in his latest flick *The Aviator*, must have come naturally.

The film will be hitting the headlines this weekend as a bevy of stars and beauties fly in for the UK premiere on Sunday.

But gorgeous babes are nothing new for lovely Leo, who's just turned 30. He's seduced an endless stream of glamorous women since shooting to fame in the epic *Titanic*.

Buzz

The big-screen hunk's sudden success, along with his handsome good looks, created a massive buzz and he was linked with the likes of supermodel Helena Christensen and actress Demi Moore.

Now the girl who has landed luscious Leo is 24-year-old Brazilian supermodel Gisele Bündchen.

Although Leo is one of Hollywood's most well-known faces, it's amazing to think that *The Aviator* is only his fourth major film since *Titanic*.

In the wake of that blockbuster he famously turned down high-profile movie roles in *Boogie Nights*, *American Psycho* and *Spiderman*.

Movie pundits predicted doom when he spent his time partying his way through LA and New York with a posse of mates as he plotted his next career move.

"I was having fun and figuring out where to go after *Titanic*," says Leo, "but I didn't become big-headed, believing my own hype. I never yelled at waitresses or hotel staff. I never thought I was this important film person and always tried to be polite to everyone I met."

Wings

And although he's now an A-list megastar, Leo still remembers the days before he was famous, trawling the audition circuit in the hope of landing his big break.

"I remember how humiliating it was to go up for auditions against eight other guys in a room, and the casting agent wouldn't even look you in the eye," he sighs.

Now with a couple more blockbusters under his belt, including *Gangs Of New York* and *Catch Me If You Can*, Leonardo can afford to pick and choose his movie roles.

And the leading part of wild and eccentric Howard Hughes is one that Leo has been itching to get his hands on for years.

In between making billions in movies, flying planes and becoming an obsessive recluse, Hughes somehow managed to find the time to romance a string of Hollywood starlets during the 1930s.

His conquests included Ava Gardner, played by the sassy Kate Beckinsale, 31, Katharine Hepburn, played by 35-year-old Cate Blanchett and Jean



DREAM DATE: Kate Beckinsale as Ava Gardner and Leo as Hughes

Harlow, played by Gwen Stefani, 35. Hughes's colourful life certainly gave plenty for young Leo to get his teeth into.

Watching him play the sexy Hughes to perfection, critics have said that this is the role that has given Leo his wings.

His performance caught the eyes of the Golden Globe award bosses who've nominated Leo in the best actor category, and he's being tipped for an Oscar.

This is a man who was already very wealthy, who could have led any life he wanted, yet he went out there and set the world aviation speed record, designed the biggest plane that had ever been built, used his own personal fortune to finance movies and had relationships with

the most beautiful women in the world," says Leo. "He did everything his own way and succeeded, even though people kept expecting him to fail."

"I think that kind of life is an inspiration to anyone who has a dream and keeps getting told they're never going to make it."

Germs

But like many famous geniuses, Hughes also had his demons.

"He was America's only celebrity billionaire of his time. But you watch him slowly come undone by his obsessive compulsive disorder."

The movie ends with Hughes at the age of 45, crumbling under the weight of his disorder which made him so terri-

fied of germs that he refused to leave his Las Vegas hotel room.

Unlike Hughes, Leo has kept his feet on the ground despite having all the trappings of fame.

"I never changed my life just because I was getting all this attention from the press. I never became a prisoner of everything unreal about my image."

And while other celebrities drone on about how they hate being chased by the paparazzi, Leo just takes it all in his stride.

"I'm a very lucky guy and I get annoyed when I hear people complaining about their loss of privacy. 'I feel I'm in a very privileged position and that I have a ridiculously easy life compared to people who have to work hard every day."

"So anyone who complains about fame is just talking crap. This is a great life."

● *The Aviator* opens in London on Boxing Day and goes on general UK release on January 6.

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